

AUSTRALIAN & BRITISH

SOCCER

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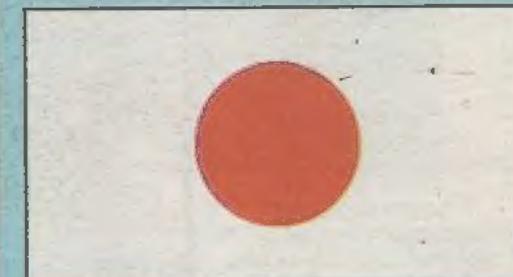


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WELCOME TO THE BIG SHOW!



By Mark Stavroulakis

Only days before the official kick-off of the 17th World Cup, a football frenzy has definitely hit Australia.

Every pub, bar and cafe have one topic in their minds and that is, who will be the winner of the World Cup.

Its style, grace and colour of the magnificent tournament will showcase the best footballing talent this world has to offer.

Over the next month, the world will be gripped by SOCCER FEVER, 32 Countries - 64 MATCHES - One Quest is the ultimate footballing prize, the WORLD CUP. So much drama has hit the shores of both Asian countries well before a whistle has been blown, get ready for one of the most explosive World Cups in the great game's history.

Sit back and relax as ABSW will take you to Korea/Japan as we bring you the best coverage in detailed reporting by various correspondents from across Australia.

Expert opinions will also feature in the Weekly, as will a who's who of footballing personalities analysing each World Cup match.

A sea of colour photos will also take centre stage as ABSW bring the World Cup to you - the readers.

Enjoy this month long football extravaganza, as once its over, the agony of another four years till the German World Cup in 2006 begins.

Page 3
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and many more Giveaways

Page 5
FRANK FARINA
UNCOVERED

— BUMPER WORLD CUP EDITION —
Everything You Need to Know About the World's
Biggest Sporting Event

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AUSSIES ABROAD BY BINESH MUDALIAR

The Nomadic Lifestyle of a
Professional Footballer

The *Greenock Telegraph* reports that Victorian midfielder MARCO MAISANO has signed a new three-year deal with Greenock Morton. Former NSL player, Dave McPherson, manages Morton, who were relegated to Scotland's 3rd division at the conclusion of last season.

Bundesliga club, *VfL Wolfsburg*, has exclusively informed ABSW that Australian youth international striker JOSH KENNEDY is a required player for the 2002/2003 campaign. Direct your questions on Kennedy to Miriam Herzberg at mh@VFL-WOLFSBURG.DE. In 2001/2002, Kennedy played 7 senior games and scored 2 goals in the Bundesliga.

★★★

Socceroo striker DAVID ZDRILIC has signed a one-year deal with English club, Walsall. Zdrilic's moves to Belgium's Racing Genk and Germany's Hannover fell through and the former Sydney United striker will be playing alongside STEVE CORICA if his work permit is granted. Zdrilic joins Walsall from German 2nd division club, Unterhaching.

★★★

Birmingham's STAN LAZARIDIS is a player that could be surplus to requirements. Blues' boss Steve Bruce this week released three out-of-contract

players and is looking to rapidly strengthen his squad for next season's EPL season. Lazaridis played 32 league games last season, mainly as a substitute.

★★★

Notts County Teamtalk has speculated that the current financial hardship in the football league, due to the collapse of ITV Digital, has resulted in little interest in their 30-goal striker DANNY ALLSOP.

However, if a bid of more than 2 million pounds is received for the former Manchester City, Wrexham and Bristol Rovers player, the Magpies may be forced to sell to ease their moolah crisis.

★★★

The *East Anglian Daily Times* reports that Colchester United has offered a new deal to CON BLATSIS but the former Derby County and Sheffield Wednesday defender is planning to play in Asia.

Meantime, ABSW has tracked down former Northern Spirit defender MARK RUDAN to Chinese club Nanjing. Rudan, who played 15 league games for Alemannia Aachen in Germany, was cleared of any wrongdoing in a transfer fee fraud case in January of this year.

★★★

The official *Portsmouth* website states that former Ajax, Arminia Bielefeld, and Sanfrecce Hiroshima defender HAYDEN FOXE has

been told by West Ham United boss Glenn Roeder that can he leave the club on the proviso that an adequate transfer fee is received. Foxey has been tracked by former Hammers and current Portsmouth manager Harry Redknapp for several months. Redknapp told the Pompey media people, "I've had a chat with the lad (Foxe) and have made him an offer — I think it would be a good move for both parties. He's a good player who hasn't been getting a run in the first team at West Ham and I'm keen to bring him here." Foxey made just four starts in West Ham's senior side last season under Roeder.

★★★

Meanwhile, Victorian Michael Ferrante will be released by the Hammers once his contract is up in June. This leaves only Richard Garcia and Trent McClenahan at Upton Park.

★★★

The impressive *Sheffield Wednesday* official website has a section where the relevant transfer rumours from the local and national media are rounded up but warns that the information "should be taken with a pinch of salt". One of the rumours flying around is that Wednesday will approach Middlesbrough for the services of talented youngster LUKE WILKSHIRE.

★★★

ZELJKO KALAC had signed a three-year contract with Serie

A club Perugia after four seasons in the Netherlands with Roda JC Kerkrade. Kalac told *Planet Football*, "Serie A is of course fantastic. I will be playing every game under a lot of pressure and that's exactly what I need."

★★★

Spider's move from Roda JC was clouded in mystery with reports coming through from Holland that the former Leicester City goalkeeper was quick to be sold because of his "disruptive influence" on Roda's squad. No transfer fee has been reported.

★★★

The superb Australian-based website, *Tribal Football*, this week reported that Empoli's MARCO BRESCIANO had secured a move to one of Italy's glamour clubs, Parma.



Mark Robertson: Defender with Dundee (Scottish Premier League)

The image shows a black and white portrait of Mark Robertson, a man with short dark hair, wearing a dark polo shirt with a logo on the chest.

Stuart Lovell: Midfielder and captain of Livingston (Scottish Premier League)



Josh Kennedy looks set to stay at VfL Wolfsburg for the 2002/2003 season.



Simon Miotto: Goalkeeper with Raith Rovers (Relegated to Scottish 2nd Division)



Ben Honeyman: Striker with Brechin (Promoted to Scottish 2nd Division)

Missing in Action

There are four grades of MIA:

1. Understated Achievers:
ARCHIE THOMPSON played 31 league games and scored 9 goals last season for Belgian club Lierse, including a period from 9 March to 6 April where he scored 4

goals in 5 games. Perth-born teenager BAJO SAVIC played three games in the Austrian first division for Rapid Vienna last season.

2. Perpetual Squad Members:

Goalkeeper FRANK JURIC has played 10 games in 3 seasons for Bayer Leverkusen including a big ZERO in 2001/2002. ANTE COVIC has been part of impressive squads such as Bayer Leverkusen (0 games) PAOK Saloniaka (4 games) and Dinamo Zagreb (0 games). Covic made his debut in Sweden's Allsvenskan for Hammarby on 14 May. Former Liverpool and Crystal Palace midfielder NICK RIZZO has played 1 league game in 3 seasons in Italy's Serie B with Ternana and Ancona according to the official Ternana website! Our sources in Turkey and France tell us that 26 year-old

3. Genuinely Untraceable Overseas: Remember former NSWIS and Bristol City goalie TYNAN SCOPE? The last trace ABSW has of Scope is at English non-league club Solihull in

Archie Thompson has gone missing from the scoring charts at Belgian club Lierse.

4. Those lost to the Socceroos:

2000/2001.

JOE SIMUNIC and ANTE SERIC have made the final cut to Croatia's World Cup squad. Enough said.

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Keeping Busy

TONY POPOVIC: Poppe's Crystal Palace participated in the European Communities Trophy against the likes of Malmo and Real Betis.

PAUL AGOSTINO scored for 1860 Munich in their 6-0 win against an Ontario XI last week on their North American tour.

JOHN ALOISI was part of the Osasuna squad that lost 5-3 away to an Alaves XI in a friendly last week. Also in Spain was

★★★

Southampton Youth made the quarterfinal of the prestigious Sternwende Cup in Germany. During the tour, JAY LUCAS scored goals against Bielefeld and Uruguay u20. SCOTT McDONALD also scored against Bielefeld.

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FOUR CORNERED!!

By Richard Kreider

ABC TV reporter Quentin McDermott remains optimistic soccer in Australia has a prosperous future despite the impending threat by soccer promoter International Entertainment Corporation (IEC) to wind up the operation of Soccer Australia; a move which could mean an embargo from FIFA activity for three years and ultimately exclusion from the 2006 World Cup.

Last night's ABC television's 'Four Corners' programme titled, "The Final Whistle" might have painted a bleak picture on the soccer scene down-under, but McDermott is confident an administrative shake-up will start to change things for the better.

"I think there has to be a wonderful future for soccer in Australia but there is absolutely no question that the administration has to get its house in order," said McDermott on Perth radio station 990 Information Radio. "It has to resolve its issues with its marketing partners and if their marketing partner IEC actually manages to wind it (Soccer Australia) up then that could be very damaging and very destructive to soccer because what it could mean is that Australian soccer will be ostracised, effectively by FIFA for the next three years and that could mean Australia not being in the next World Cup Finals."

"We went and spoke to the supporters from clubs like the Melbourne Knights, Newcastle United and also Perth Glory and obviously they, up to a point, have differing views about the relative kind of virtues of each of those clubs."

"But I think there was an overall consensus that the administration has been too political and that vested interests have played too big a part in the administration of soccer for years and years, for

decades in fact," he said.

"The overall feeling that we got when talking to everyone, is that the 'real' stakeholders, the supporters in particular, are very ill-served by the administrators and have been over the years," said McDermott.

"There certainly seems to be a view within Soccer Australia itself which is probably correct, that the contracts which Soccer Australia has with its various marketing partners have been fantastically complex and extremely unhelpful."

"What has also happened is that Soccer Australia has sold the marketing rights to the National (Soccer) League and to the Socceroos, to IEC."

"This isn't a criticism of IEC at all, but by doing that, it means the clubs in particular and Soccer Australia has found it very hard to raise revenue from their own promotions and they certainly want that to change and I think most stakeholders want that relationship to change - between Soccer Australia and IEC," said McDermott. "Whether IEC will allow that or not because they have a contract, is a different matter."

The legal dispute over Soccer Australia reportedly owing IEC \$3 million began last Friday in Sydney's Federal Court but has been adjourned until June 7.

Soccer Australia Chairman Ian Knop said the Court adjournment is a positive thing for SA although he would not elaborate why.

The case is still expected to be concluded prior to the July Oceania Nations Cup, which Australia has still to decide on whether or not to partake due to a lack of financial resources. Soccer Australia has asked players to play without pay but would collect a cut of any prize money. Australia would be firm favourites to win the Cup and gain qualification to the 2003 Confederations Cup and guarantee SA at least \$3 million.

SOCCER FEVER HITS MARCONI

By Mark Stavroulakis

Glamour National League club the Marconi Stallions will be the centre of attention during the up and coming World Cup.

The Marconi club will be a hive of activity, as soccer fever will grip the palace with various events held.

Rale 'The Legend' Basic has already organized a num-



ber of successful ways in promoting the world game.

A brilliant concept has been put in place whereby Marconi Stadium will be the venue where many soccer games will be seen.

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A	Senegal	8.50	3.00	4.35	21.00	251.00	G	Mexico	3.00	1.62	3.30	8.00	81.00
E	Cameroon	2.25	1.35	3.40	3.00	34.00	C	Brazil	1.50	1.12	3.90	1.30	7.00
E	Ireland	2.90	1.60	3.40	5.25	101.00	C	Turkey	6.50	2.50	3.90	4.75	81.00
A	Uruguay	2.40	1.45	3.40	6.50	101.00	G	Italy	1.53	1.10	3.75	1.50	6.00
A	Denmark	2.60	1.55	3.40	6.50	81.00	G	Ecuador	6.00	2.50	3.75	9.00	101.00
E	Germany	1.33	1.04	4.25	1.85	17.00	C	Costa Rica	1.95	1.30	3.40	10.00	401.00
E	Saudi Arabia	9.00	3.00	4.25	21.00	501.00	C	China	3.30	1.80	3.40	1.00	801.00
F	Argentina	1.60	1.16	3.65	1.85	5.50	H	Belgium	2.50	1.50	3.40	3.25	67.00
F	Nigeria	5.00	2.20	3.65	7.00	81.00	H	Japan	2.50	1.50	3.40	3.00	81.00
B	Paraguay	1.85	1.25	3.40	5.25	67.00	D	Poland	2.50	1.50	3.40	4.85	126.00
B	Sth Africa	3.85	1.90	3.40	9.00	201.00	D	Sth. Korea	2.60	1.53	3.40	7.00	126.00
F	England	1.90	1.25	3.25	3.30	15.00	H	Russia	1.75	1.18	3.25	3.00	51.00
F	Sweden	3.85	1.85	3.25	8.50	101.00	H	Tunisia	4.50	2.00	3.25	7.50	301.00
B	Spain	1.40	1.09	4.15	1.43	10.00	D	Portugal	1.47	1.11	3.85	1.55	14.00
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Lazaridis rules himself out of Nations Cup



Stan Lazaridis has ruled himself out of selection for the Socceroos.

Socceroos midfielder Stan Lazaridis has ruled himself out of the Oceania Nation Cup tournament.

The Birmingham City flyer is back in his hometown of Adelaide to visit his family during the English off-season.

The 29-year-old has told The Advertiser newspaper that he needs a rest after a long season in which Birmingham won promotion to the Premier League.

"I definitely want to keep playing for the Socceroos," he said.

"I'm not thinking of the next World Cup at this stage, but I think I have a few good years left in me."

Despite constant rumours of a move, Lazaridis - who is in the final year of his contract - is eager to negotiate a new deal with Birmingham upon his return for pre-season training.

"I don't think they will want me to leave for free in 12 months so I would think they will want to sit down and offer me an extension," he explained.

"Either that or they will sell me but I don't have to go anywhere if I don't want to."

Dusan Purac:

A Genius Living in Our Midst

By Binesh Mudaliar

A well-documented problem with football in Australia is the imbalance of talent flowing out to that being imported.

A prima facie analysis of this situation reveals that while we lose the likes of Mark Viduka, Harry Kewell, Craig Moore and Brett Emerton, big-name foreigners such as Nicola Berti and Aljosa Asanovic playing in Australia's top flight does not restore equilibrium. Hence, it is with some astonishment that a man as credentialed in the world of football such as DUSAN PURAC is left to his own devices rather than being opened with welcome arms by the bourgeois NSL clubs and bumbling governing bodies.

Dusan Purac started his football career as a professional in the legendary Yugoslav first division prior to the third Balkan War and donned the colours of such clubs as Vojvodina, OFK Beograd, Novi Sad and Dinamo Zagreb. Purac also honed his sharpness in Yugoslavia's most respectable indoor soccer tournament while playing for Novi Sad and was voted MVP in 1968, 1969, 1970 and 1971.

Following Purac's migration to Australia, the 'Dusan Purac Soccer Academy' was established. This academy was one that focussed a great deal on individual skill development. Purac has also produced soccer coaching videos that have been endorsed as a quality product by FIFA's Technical Committee. Players that have benefited from Purac's coaching include Zvonimir Boban and Dejan Savicevic.

While soccer in this country struggles for mainstream media attention, there are no such difficulties for Purac. The humble genius has signed a deal with Channel 7's Big Hour program to promote kids' soccer during the World Cup and recently put pen to paper with Channel 10's Totally Wild show. Inside Sport is also falling over themselves to get a piece of Purac.

Well, that's the man, but what about his priceless thoughts on the game?

The National Soccer League: Is of very average standard because the best players go to Europe.

Player development in Australia: Has improved in the last 10 years and is one of the best systems in the world. But, generally our young players aren't as skilful as players in Brazil for example.

The administration of the game in Australia: Disastrous. The game isn't marketed properly and we lose big corporate sponsors such as Coca Cola and Ericsson.

Best Australian player: The most talented players are Mark Viduka, Harry Kewell and Ned Zelic.



Dusan Purac with AC Milan legend and former Croatian captain Zvonimir Boban.

SA given stay of execution in Federal Court

The Board of Soccer Australia welcomed the postponement of the application by IEC in the Federal Court for leave to be granted for IEC to apply in the future to wind up Soccer Australia.

In commenting on the postponement, the Chairman of Soccer Australia Mr Ian Knop declared that Soccer Australia was making excellent progress in its program of financial reform and that the Board would prove that it was solvent and that IEC's application would be dismissed by the court.

"We have succeeded with several new measures, such as the National Registration Fee, which have enabled us to properly capitalise Soccer Australia and create a solid financial platform going forward.

"We are also working in close co-operation with the Australian Sports Commission and the various State and Territory Federations and affiliated bodies who are giving us tremendous support.

"We are optimistic about the future and the Board totally rejects the misleading reports about financial difficulties that have been circulated in the press this week in the lead up to today's court hearing". Mr. Knop concluded.

And here's an editorial from ABSW's Stuart Jones on the IEC/Soccer Australia issue.

So IEC have taken Soccer Australia to court. Whilst so many in this game work for the love of the sport rather than money, groups such as IEC look to get the money they are owed ASAP, which is their right.

I for one wish SA had the money to pay the IEC contract out in full. At least then soccer in this country has no third party company running

the marketing side of things. If IEC want out of Australian soccer as well then good riddance, the sooner the better. I would love to know from IEC's view exactly what benefits they have brought to the game in Australia.

Personally I would like to see all involved in IEC permanently banned from involvement in the game if they do win their case and wind up SA thereby having the causal effect of FIFA suspending Australia from international competition (that would not be IEC's fault but a consequence of their action which surely they are aware of).

To me winding up SA is a commercial decision demonstrating that IEC have not got what they wanted from their contract with SA. Which is quite ironic because I personally don't think SA got as much from the IEC contract as the current board would have wished.

IEC's action is playing with people's lives, employment future.

Whilst the rich owners of IEC can sit back in the hope of gaining more money for their company, the jobs of those in Soccer Australia who work for pitance are under threat. Well good luck IEC in getting your money, I hope you do get it (hopefully without SA going bust) and then become just a speck in the landscape of soccer history very soon, I for one won't be upset to see you gone.

A previous administration signed IEC to a contract and they have the right to chase any outstanding money, that is granted. However I personally think that so many have sacrificed so much for soccer in this country big corporations like IEC could just wipe off the debt for the love of the game.

Cash-strapped Australia may miss Oceania Nations Cup

By Daniel Kuzlow

Australia may be able to contest the Oceania Nations Cup in July because of financial problems, Soccer Australia chairman Ian Knop said.

The situation is a catch-22 for the cash-strapped SA, with the Oceania Nations Cup winners, almost certain to be Australia, guaranteed a multi-million dollar payday by qualifying for the Confederations Cup.

The International Entertainment Corporation Pty Ltd (IEC), which controls the promotion and broadcasting of Australian soccer, has commenced legal action seeking a reported three million dollars (1.62 million US) it believes is owed by SA.

Knop said there was a real possibility Australia would not field a team in the Oceania Nations Cup.

"At this stage I am hopeful we can play, but in reality we may not be able to play," he said, adding that SA may not have the money to send a team to the tournament in New Zealand.

He said SA would not commit to overspending as had occurred in the past.

"Soccer Australia, in its current position, needs to be careful what we commit to do," he said.

"As against in the past, Soccer Australia is committing to do things when it didn't have the funds, we are not doing that in the future."

SA has tabled a controversial pay offer to the Socceroos for the Oceania Nations Cup, urging the players' union to accept the deal for the good of the game.

The package, under which the Socceroos would not be paid unless they won the tournament and qualified for the Confederations Cup next year, has put Australia's participation in both tournaments at risk.

An agreement in place between the players' union and Soccer Australia says if the two parties have not agreed on a pay deal

20 days before the Nations Cup, Australia will not be able to field a side.

It appears that this current problem is once again due to the incompetence of the Soccer Australia board.

The recent Grand Final in Perth was alleged to have been attended by up to 20 Soccer Australia officials, each of whom enjoyed the first-class travel and accommodation. When asked about the situation on game day, Mr Knop vehemently refused claiming, that those who attended stayed in only very simple hotels and were forced to pay their own airfare.

If the former did in fact occur, then SA have a lot to explain. The increase of the National Registration Fee in early May was introduced to help subsidise the cost of running the National Teams and not transporting up to 20 officials over to Perth to watch the Grand Final.

Added, the recent National League awards, originally cancelled were rescheduled at the Inter-Continental Hotel in Sydney. Once again such a spectacle would have cost a large sum of money. Money that SA claim not to have.

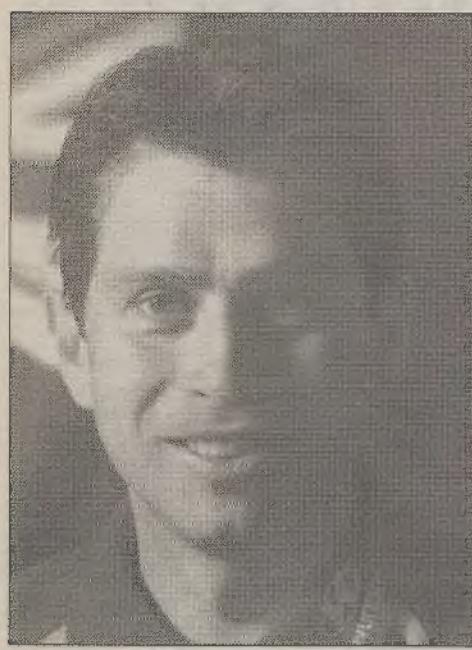
Now it appears, many will suffer from the mismanagement of a poorly governed National Body.



Ian Knop has said Australia may not make the Nations Cup owing to financial problems.

One On One with Frank Farina

INTERVIEW WITH FRANK FARINA – AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL COACH



Socceroo coach Frank Farina.

A coach can control very few of the crucial events that decide football matches. Once he picks his team, his influence slowly wanes over the next 90 minutes. National Coach, FRANK FARINA knows this feeling all too well.

Farina is one of the most charismatic personalities in the Australian game, and has achieved at both club and international level. He enjoyed a productive seven year spell in Europe where he scaled to championship heights. He set the Belgian league alight with Club Brugge and became the first Australian to play in the prestigious Italian Serie A when he lined up for Bari. The lad from Darwin led an enviable lifestyle and fulfilled his dream of playing at the highest level.

While success is sweet, politics is a fact of life in the global game. With the uncertainty surrounding the code in this country, the next four years provides Farina with probably his greatest challenge to date.

Amid a busy schedule, meetings, mobile phones & the works, Frank clears the deck and speaks to ABSW's DANIELA RACO and work colleague Manfred Granig about the long road to Germany in 2006, Frank's predictions for the World Cup, and Kerry Packer's billions!!

DR: Mr Farina you have been inducted into Soccer's Hall of fame and have been labeled "The Legend" of our game. What are your thoughts when you hear such accolades?

FF: To be totally honest, I think it's nice. It's an honour to be recognized by the sport for what you've achieved. To join some of the people that are already in there is a privilege.

DR: A coach is as much a representative of the sport as the players themselves, and has an important role to fulfill with sponsors, fans, the non-soccer public and the media. Can you describe a regular day-in-the-life of Frank Farina?

FF: Plenty of time on the mobile. Unfortunately with the National team it's not like a club job where you're busy day-in-day-out with the lads on the park and then week-in-week-out playing games. There are the political issues which rears its head every now and then – more often than not at this stage.

A lot of it is administrative, dealing with games that are coming up, the logistics of booking hotels, site bookings – that's not me doing it – but liaising with the



Frank would love to be in the shoes of Kerry Packer.

National Team administrators and trying to sort things out, and obviously dealing with clubs. A day-in-the-life of Frank Farina revolves around being on the phone, talking to different people, and making sure everything is being done.

DR: As a player you have achieved at both club and international level. You blazed the trail to Europe that so many other Australian players have followed. You have enjoyed sweet success, and also bitter disappointment. Mr Farina, Is this the one? Can we book our ticket to Germany in 2006?

FF: Well we would all like to think so. Unfortunately there are a lot of factors which have to fall into place to be successful. We have all seen over the past 20 years that there are small details which sometimes don't go your way and you're unsuccessful. We go back to Scotland '86, Israel '90, Argentina '94, and Iran '97 – it's the little things that need to fall into place for us to be successful.

I hope that in 2006 with the direction that we're heading in now and the changes which are occurring within the game and the organization are such that it has got to enable us to qualify for 2006, but it's a bit of an unknown quantity at the moment because we don't know what our qualification path will be. I think it will be a lot clearer after May or after June when the FIFA elections are held and obviously the manner with which we will qualify will be decided.

MG: Frank, as you have mentioned, you don't have a team which you manage on a week-to-week basis. How do you create teamwork for a National Side when you have players that play all over the world?

FF: With a National Team you don't look at it as you would at club level where you're looking at a season. A season for the National Team is a 4 year cycle. That's what I call a season. In a 4 year cycle you create that team unit by playing as many games as you possibly can, because as you said the difficulty to face us all is geography. Our players are spread to all corners of the globe so whenever we get the opportunity to play games we get to bond the team and get them working or playing in a formation or in a manner that I'd like them to play – so it's very important that we play a lot of games in that 4 year cycle or season as I like to call it.

DR: Are you still keen to play "home" fixtures in England to cut travel time and expense for the European-based players?

FF: Of course, whether it's England or Europe. My program for the two years leading up to obviously Japan and Korea was based on the FIFA calendar and the UEFA calendar. We looked at trying to get games against National teams who weren't involved in those games. Because the majority of our players are playing in Europe that's the way the program will continue whilst I'm still in charge.

DR: The Socceroos will be back in action in July playing for \$3 million in prize money as they compete in the Oceania Nations Cup. Australia tried to bring the competition forward to mid-May to coincide with the end of the European (and Australian) league season, but was outvoted 10-1 by Oceania members. Will the July scheduling affect Australia's chances and your decision on team selection?

FF: Enormous effect. Initially the Oceania Nations Cup was scheduled for July because the idea was that Australia was going to qualify for the World Cup. With us not qualifying I put a proposal in that we change it to late May which would be financially a lot easier, not only for Australia but for all Oceania Nations. But in their wisdom Oceania decided that July was a better date – which is an absolute joke and it effects every team's preparation.

Teams will be spending more money in preparing; you'll have players that are underdone. I think it's physically dangerous for a lot of players who haven't played for 7-8 weeks that have to come in and play 5 games in the space of 10 days. I think it's a health concern. It obviously affects the side that you can pick with so many players that haven't played and have been on holidays for such a long period of time, and clubs unwilling to want their players after that break to be playing 5 games in 10 days. It does affect our chances in a big way, but I think the Oceania Nations were quite happy with that, that's why you saw the vote 10-1 because they were bringing Australia back to the field.

I think it's a narrow-minded view from Oceania because you always want your best team to qualify for

any major tournament because you don't want to go there and be made a laughing stock out of. So I think it's crazy, but they're the cards we've been dealt with so we'll get on with it.

DR: Given the financial constraints under which Soccer Australia is working, and with limited time to prepare will you select a largely home-based squad for the tournament?

FF: Yes I will.

DR: Should Oceania get direct qualification to the World Cup?

FF: Definitely.

DR: Does the competition (NSL) have a future in its present form?

FF: No, it has to be revamped. It has to be tinkered with and to come up with a better solution than what we've got at the moment.

MG: You're sometimes in a difficult situation trying to get your best side on the field with Leagues or Clubs not letting their players play in the National side – How does that affect the "fringe" players that come on those occasions that may not be selected in your Number One team?

FF: I would think it gives "fringe" players a fantastic opportunity to show what they can do – to push their claims forward to be included. I've always said that we have to have depth if we're going to be successful. Now if for whatever reason, whether it's injury or unavailability that a player gets a chance, 99 times out of 100 that's how great careers start.

Whether it is the likes of a Maradona or someone else, opportunities most probably came to them because obviously they were talented players, but they may have had the opportunity because somebody else was injured. So obviously it's a fantastic opportunity for "fringe" players to really push their claim forward that they're really good enough to be in the National Team.

By Daniela Raco

MG: As part of the leadership group that you put together for the National side - What characteristics do you look for in those individuals?

FF: They must understand and love football. They have also got to understand the types of players we are dealing with, the mentality that surrounds the players, and have a similar view on the style of play that we want to get across. I want dedicated staff, and most probably as I had as a player – you've got to have this same burning desire and passion that I have, which is to qualify for the World Cup. If they haven't got those attributes then there is no real place for them within the National set-up.

MG: How do you motivate your side to perform?

FF: If you have to motivate a player to pull on the green and gold then there is something drastically wrong. I think the green and gold guernsey is motivation in itself for a player to do well. I've not come across a National team player who hasn't been motivated.

DR: What are your thoughts on the current FIFA rule that prohibits players under the age of 18 to play for an overseas club?



Farina still showing his sublime skill.

FF: I think it's helpful to be honest. What we've had in the past is a lot of European clubs racing, and pillaging, and grabbing any young kid that they can with the hope that 1 out of 10 will come through – then what happens to the other 9? I think it's a good rule which enables the National League to actually see these young kids come through and possibly playing in the National League prior to going overseas.

We've got a lot of young players overseas – we didn't even know they were Australian – they went when they were 14 or 15 and then all of a sudden someone says there is an Australian playing for Middlesbrough or an Australian playing for Leeds...well you think who is that? The ruling benefits a lot of countries not just Australia. It protects the players as well, and that's the most important think about the ruling – it does help protect the interests of young players coming through.

His disappointment is obvious after the loss to Uruguay.

MG: Do you ever find that it affects the morale of the side that you sometimes struggle to get the likes of the Viduka's or Kewell's along?

FF: Not at all.

DR: What league do you rate as the world's best?

FF: The English Premier League.

DR: Your predictions for the World Cup?

FF: France.

DR: If you could travel back in time, where would you go?

FF: I'd only go back a couple of days – put a million dollars on a race I know who the winner's going to be and I'd be set for the rest of my life – I could actually buy Soccer Australia!

DR: What is your favourite late night snack?

FF: A hot cup of tea with Scotch Finger biscuits.

DR: Who would you trade places with for a day?

FF: Kerry Packer. During that day I'd throw a packet load of money, as he did into Super League, into soccer in this country and we'd be okay. Then he could have his life back.

DR: If you could have any supernatural power, what would it be?

FF: To see into the future.

DR: What is the first thing you do when you arrive home?

FF: Kiss my kids.

DR: If you could have box seats at any event in the world, what would it be?

FF: The World Cup Final in Japan.

DR: How would you spend your last \$50?

FF: I hope that I never get into that situation.

Kingz future still being decided



Football Kingz prospective owner Chris Turner and

fellow director Ted Midlane are set to buy a 90 per cent shareholding, with previous owners Sky television retaining 10 percent.

While negotiations on board members are still continuing it is believed, Sky will continue to have a member on the board, along with Turner, Midlane and New Zealand Soccer chairman Kevin Stratul.

"Results-wise we had an abysmal season," Turner told NZPA.

"We must look to turn that around. In an ideal world we would have reviewed things and got on with it but we have to work through this shareholding issue first."

"We would not have signed the agreement with Sky unless we were confident it would be accepted."

GLORY BOSS KEEN FOR FINALS REFORM

By Richard Kreider

Perth Glory chairman Nick Tana has thrown his hat in the ring with regards supporting a change to the National Soccer League Championship, saying a revision of the format should be considered, especially in the area of the league winner who deserves greater recognition.

"It's very cruel, but that's the system we have to play to and if we want to change it down the track then so be it," said Tana a week after his club lost the Grand Final to the Olympic Sharks and who he believes was the better team on the day.

"I'm all for changing the system but Australia is a 'finals fever' country. There is no question that the euphoria that exists around 'Grand Final' day would not exist in a home and away competition. So on that basis, in the absence of substituting something else in its place, I say, don't change. But if there is something else to be found to substitute it, then let's change it," said Glory's major shareholder.

Glory coach Mich d'Avray has already gone on record expressing his dissatisfaction with the "Russian Roulette" style grand final which determines the Australian championship because it fails to truly recognise the team that finishes the home and away part of the season top of the NSL table.

The Premiers finished a record 13 points ahead of second-placed Newcastle United.

Despite losing the grand final, Tana was more than pleased with the season as a whole. "It has been a thunderingly successful season to the extent where we have achieved a lot of new records and ultimately a packed house at Subiaco (Oval)", he said.

Tana is also in support of

the current motion, agreed to by most of the NSL clubs at a recent NSL Commission meeting, for a 39-round 2002-03 season prior to the reformation of season 2003-04.

"I am certainly in favour, on the basis that we have got full-time professional players and there is no way that can be supported with only 24 weeks of football," he said.

"What are they going to do for the other 28 weeks?"

Under the revamped system, teams will face each other three times, culminating in 18 home fixtures and three byes. Some games will have to be played mid-week; presumably on public holidays. On average, Perth Glory makes almost \$200,000 on each home game.

Tana believes the clubs that can't run full-time players should stand aside for those that can. "My attitude has always been that the game has to go full time, but if they (clubs) are not full-time, then find other clubs or people that are prepared to support full-



Nick Tana

time; because going back to part-time is a backward step," he said.

Meantime, as for a purpose-built soccer venue in the west, it appears the upgrade of Perth Oval is far from a certainty.

"Perth Oval (renovations) was never meant to have started until next season," said

Tana. But anyway, in terms of renovations there are discussions underway in relation to council, Government, ourselves and stakeholders, but renovations won't start - if they are going to get underway - until around March or April of next year."

"At the end of the day, we haven't signed all the contracts. As far as we are concerned we are committed, the local Government is committed, everybody is committed but, as they say, it's not over until the fat lady sings - or until the contracts are signed, executed and delivered, there is always an element."

As for the future of certain players whose contracts have expired, it has been decided to release defender Dion Valle. Perth Glory coach Mich d'Avray said Valle had made a fine contribution in WA and would move on with the club's blessing.

"We wish him well. Dion did not enjoy too much luck with injuries here and has always made a great contribution to off-field activities such as the Glory in the Community Program.

Striker Alistair Edwards and goalkeeper Tony Franken have retired from the NSL.

"Alistair and Tony have been magnificent ambassadors for Western Australian soccer," said d'Avray.

"They have both won international honours for their country and significantly both have invested their time and experience in developing young players, both of them through GloryZONEsoccer clinics and Tony also through his own goalkeeping clinics.

"The contribution they have made to soccer in this country at all levels should be a matter of great pride to both of them."

Talks are continuing with Brazilian midfielder Edgar Junior, midfielder Brad Maloney, club captain Gareth Naven and Michael Garcia.

WARREN LASHES OUT AT RIVAL SPORTING CODES

By Graham Cooke

Former Socceroo captain Johnny Warren can scarcely suppress a smile when he hears of Australian cricket or rugby tours in doubt because of unrest in the host nation.

He contrasts this attitude with that prevailing in November 1967 when the Australian soccer team was virtually ordered to South Vietnam to play in a 'Friendship' Cup series.

"They cheerfully sent us into a war zone, make no mistake about it, the Viet Cong were active in Saigon - anything could have happened," he said.

"It's really just the same old story - 'oh, they're only soccer players, they're expendable'."

He said the United States, having failed to impress the Vietnamese with its military might, had decided to embark on a "hearts and minds" program, and had hit on the idea of a sporting contest between South Vietnam and its allies in the war against the communist North.

"They had a think about the sport and, of course, it had to be football," Warren said. "I could hardly see rugby league or Australian Rules making much of an impression in Saigon."

However, out of such an unpropitious setting had come great good for the Australian game.

"We won through to the final and played South Korea in front of 40,000 spectators," Warren said. "Now, whatever the South Vietnamese thought about Australians, they hated and feared the Koreans, and they were all cheering for us."

"It was a totally new experience,

because in the past whenever we had played touring side in Australia, whether they were British, Italian, Greek or whatever, the crowd had always backed the opposition. We were simply not accustomed to have anyone supporting us, and it did wonders for our morale.

"That game, which we won 1-0 was really the birth of the Socceroos."

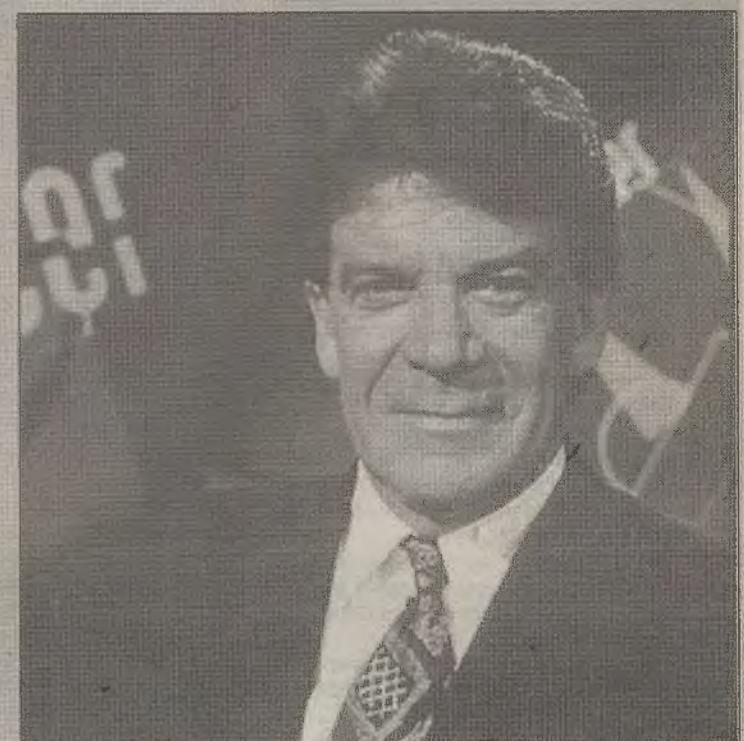
It was also the beginning of one of the most distinguished of Socceroos careers, that of defender Manfred Schaefer.

Warren recalled that Schaefer went

to Vietnam as a bench player, but was brought on at half time in a tropical downpour against New Zealand, because it was thought his burly build would better cope with the deteriorating conditions.

"He had a great game and kept his spot for the next seven years," Warren said.

During that time Schaefer played 72 games for the Socceroos and was one of the team's stars in the 1974 World Cup - the only time Australia has qualified for the finals.



Johnny Warren: Former Socceroo has questioned the suggested cancellations of the up-and-coming cricket and rugby league tours.

CHILEAN SIDE COLO COLO TO TOUR IN CANBERRA?

By Graham Cooke

Soccer Canberra will be pushing hard to get a match with one of South America's best-known club sides, Colo-Colo, Senior League chairman Walter Valeri said last week.

The 23-times Chilean champions will be in Australia initially for two matches against the Young Socceroos in Sydney and Melbourne on successive weekends in July.

However, organisers of the tour are keen to add a midweek match for the visitors, and Valeri said there is a good chance that it could come to Canberra.

"At the moment it all depends on whether we can get the Canberra [formerly Bruce] Stadium," he said. "We want to make something of this game because it will be the first international contest of any prominence in Canberra since the Olympic Games - and that's getting on for two years ago."

After the Canberra Cosmos National League debacle officials in the ACT believe it will take a steady diet of international fixtures to reawaken

interest in the code.

If the game comes to the National Capital, the local team will be the Canberra Rockets representative side. An initial approach was made to the Belconnen Blue Devils, but the NSW Premier League club thought there would be too many problems in recalling their players many of whom are now with ACT Premiership clubs.

Valeri said Socceroos coach Frank Farina had hinted he would like to add a couple of young 'guests' to the Rockets squad in order to give them international experience. "I don't see any problem with that, especially if it is assisting Australia at international level," Valeri said.

However, he stressed the match is not a done deal. There were still negotiations to be completed over requests from the tour organisers for a financial guarantee, and Coffs Harbour has been named as an alternative venue.

In another development, Valeri said he had been seconded to represent Soccer Canberra on a committee considering the feasibility of a 'second tier' summer competition involving teams from the eastern states. The president of Belconnen Blue Devils,

Tony Patterson, is the other representative from the ACT.

Valeri said the aim was to have the competition running from October 2003.



Walter Valeri: Soccer Canberra Senior League Chairman is hopeful for a midweek showdown between Colo Colo and the Canberra Rockets.

OFF THE CROSSBAR



By Allan Crisp

NEW CLUB FOR TONY VIDMAR

Socceroo Tony Vidmar has severed his ties with Glasgow Rangers and returned to Adelaide carrying six championship league and cup medals as the legacy of five glorious years with the famous Scottish club.

Now on a month's holiday in his hometown with his Dutch-born partner Patrice and six months old daughter Nikayla, Vidmar is, "In the process of looking for a new club."

"There is nothing definite at this stage, I'm waiting to hear from my agent," the 31-year old defender said, as he quashed reports that Middlesbrough was on his wish list.

Meanwhile, Vidmar is spending his well-deserved break catching up with his fellow soccer-playing brother, Aurelio and his family, his parents and all of the Vidmar clan.

"As in most jobs, there were some tough times, but I have no regrets about my professional career," Tony said.

"I achieved my dream of playing in Europe and it was beyond my wildest dreams to have played for five seasons with a great outfit like Glasgow Rangers."



Tony Vidmar: The former Glasgow Rangers and Socceroo star could well find himself with the Force next season?

Prompted to recall his most memorable career games, Vidmar responded, "The Celtic matches were always special and the Champions League game against Parma at Ibrox stays in the mind because I scored."

Vidmar also got on the score sheet when Rangers downed Aberdeen in the Scottish Cup final two years ago, a habit he developed by sharing the goal grabbing honours with John Markovski during the 1992 Barcelona Olympic Games when the Olyroos qualified for the quarter-finals.

Markovski and Vidmar netted a brace apiece during that campaign when the other scorers were Damian Mori, Carl Veart, Shaun Murphy and Zlatko Arambasic.

With 53 A class international games and 15 other Socceroo appearances notched on his gun belt, Vidmar is a veteran of three World Cup campaigns.

Along with Aurelio, Tony began his soccer habit at the Underdale High School before the siblings progressed to the Woodville Junior Club.

Tony's initial overseas jaunt with Belgium club Germinal Ekeren was not what he expected at the fully professional level so he returned to Adelaide City.

But the big man was sufficiently bold two seasons later to give European football another shot at Dutch club NAC Breda.

That career move was tremendously successful, bringing the powerful defender under the notice of Rangers, culminating in an unforgettable trophy gathering five-year stint.

He tallied 149 NSL games during his two spells with Adelaide City, scoring 14 goals.

His NSL career began with an NSL Cup game against Sunshine Coast and Vidmar remembers the thrill of his first selection as a City squad member for an away trip to Brisbane for a league match.

Unfortunately, he remained on the bench for that game, so his overall total stays one short of the imposing 150 tally.

City would certainly be interested in signing Tony Vidmar to once again rejoin his elder brother at the club, but that move will be on the backburner until Tony decides on his immediate plans.

FORCE READY TO ROLL

Adelaide City Force has swept smartly out of the starting blocks in announcing its plans for the elongated 36-match tournament of three rounds that is to be the 2002/03 NSL season.

The Force intends to increase its crowd support by playing its home matches in the first two months (September and October) on Sunday afternoons at Hindmarsh Stadium.

Adelaide's only NSL club will revert to its Friday night format in the peak summer months from mid-March before going back to afternoons during the tail end of the minor round campaign.

A crucial Council of Clubs meeting in Sydney agreed to the three-round format, which will give each of the 13-clubs 36 matches two more than the previous longest season of 34 games in the 2000/01 season.

The NSL honchos and the clubs agree that the concept is far from ideal, but that it represents the best alternative while the NSL is rejuvenating its resources.

Adelaide City president Bob D'Ottavi

believes the juggling of match days during the long haul should attract bigger crowds and improve corporate sponsorship.

But, D'Ottavi opposes the view that midweek matches would be beneficial. "Some clubs were pushing for midweek matches, but my experience is that they don't work," D'Ottavi said.

"The fans have shown previously that they don't like or support the staging of midweek games."



Bob D'Ottavi: Adelaide Force President believes midweek matches in next seasons new 36 Round competition will not work.

The obvious fault with the three round system, acknowledged by NSL chairman Remo Nogarotto and NSL general manager Stefan Kamasz, is the uneven number of home games allocated to clubs during the third and final round.

But, it does satisfy the long felt need by clubs for a longer, more rewarding season or as Nogarotto so aptly puts it "The reforms are designed to maximise revenue opportunities for clubs and to help stop the financial bleeding."

VILLANI STILL QUICK

New Adelaide City coach Charley Villani, renowned for his twinkling toed skills as a player, has allowed no grass to grow under his

ROUND 11 PREMIER LEAGUE

Galaxy 5 (Tsekiris 2, Doumanis, Inaya, McGregor); Para Hills Knights 0; Best Galaxy; Karnevis, Pezos, Tsekiris; Para Hills; Christakos, Jones, M. Moore.

Adelaide City 3 (Bucco, Budin, Pellegrini); Playford Patriots 1 (Georgiou); Best Adelaide City; Budin, Pellegrini, Faye; Playford Patriots; Robertson, Perrie, Georgiou.

Blue Eagles 1 (Brooks); Campbelltown Red Devils 2 (Montersano); Best Blue Eagles; T. Zito, Perin, Kieno; Campbelltown; Parry, Spagnolletti, Monterosa.

MetroStars 2 (Hagger 2); Raiders 2 (Karapetis, S. Barbari); Best MetroStars; Sabatino, Antoniou, Hagger; Raiders; Kuzman, Karapetis, Ceracchio.

Pirates 0; White City Woodville 4; (Hinic 2, Leane, Petrov); Best Pirates; Lagana, Koufalas, Dacic; White City; Hinic, Selitman, Tibaldi.

Olympic FC 0; Moudbury Jets 0; Best Olympic; Parissos, Tosh, Tsoukalas; Moudbury Jets; Dobson, Kelly, VanDomele.

feet since his appointment on May 2.

Villani has called in highly experienced coach Sam Miskelly as his assistant and appointed Peter Lewinski as the clubs fitness trainer.

And, in order to generate a team bonding, Villani has put the brakes on releasing City players on loan to Premier League or State League clubs during the off season.

"No one will be going on loan," Villani said. "The players will be expected to retain a good level of fitness before we resume training on July 2."

Miskelly, a former SASF staff coach, has been an assistant to Villani at both the Birkalla and Para Hills clubs.

"Sam is a very well credentialed coach and a very knowledgeable and loyal guy and I'm pleased to be working with him again," Villani said.

"I think a fitness trainer is essential because this will be a very long season and we have only a relatively short time to prepare."

The new coach is dedicated to developing a good brand of attacking soccer, designed to, "Get the people back to Hindmarsh Stadium."

To that aim, City has signed Socceroo mid-fielder Aurelio Vidmar on a new one-year contract and is close to securing a new deal with ace defender Ante Kovacevic.

Villani is still unsure about goalkeeper Adrian Cagalj, who still is trialing with English first division club, Burnley.

But, the Force has had talks with two interstate players, two local players and a New Zealand striker.

"We also intend to invite a half a dozen locally based players to train with us when we resume training," Villani said.

PATRIOTS INVASION

Playford Patriots Under 17 team is due to fly to the UK on July 21st to compete in the Manchester UMBRO tournament.

This will be the second successive year that the club has sent its 17-year old players to the Old Dart, thanks to the dedicated fund raising efforts of the parents and clubmembers.

While overseas, Playford managing director

Fiona Varacalli is hoping to establish contacts with clubs within a 30-mile radius of Manchester, such as Manchester City, Bolton, Stoke, Leeds, Sheffield, Stockport and Macclesfield.

"We have nothing specific in mind in those areas, but we can see value in establishing relationships," said Patriots communications manager Ian Luker.

The club and the parents have been involved in fund raising activities for some months, chasing sponsors.

"The trip is designed to give an opportunity for northern suburbs players to obtain overseas exposure and is much appreciated by the boys," Luker said.

EAGLE FLIES TO JAPAN

Young Blue Eagles player Zachary Smith is off to Japan as the pioneer selection of the South Australian Soccer Federations "Live Learn and Play" program.

Last March the SASF launched the scheme by inviting applications from clubs and players to participate in the soccer Japanese exchange a program hosted through the Okayama Prefecture and a local Council, known as Sanyo Town.

After extensive interviews, Zachary Smith emerged as the lad chosen to spend four weeks in Japan, playing soccer with a sister club, experiencing Japanese schooling and staying with a local family.

The fact that the visit coincides with the World Cup finals is the icing on Zachary's cake of good fortune.

He plays for the Blue Eagles Under 15 team and is a Year 9 student at Adelaide High School.

Speaking on behalf of the SASF, John Mundy said, "Whilst it will be a once in a lifetime experience for Zac, we know he will represent his club, Council, sport and State with pride."

"We would like to thank Zac's family, his club and the City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters for all their support," Mundy said.

Applications for the next Japanese exchange program should contact John Mundy at the SASF on 8340.0688 or E Mail John.Mundy@sasf.com.au <mailto:John.Mundy@sasf.com.au>

ROUND 12 PREMIER LEAGUE

Friday, May 31

Modbury Jets v Para Hills Knights

Saturday, June 1

Adelaide City v Galaxy

Blue Eagles v Playford Patriots

MetroStars v Campbelltown

Pirates v Raiders

Olympic FC v White City

STATE LEAGUE

Saturday, June 1

Salisbury Berries v Panthers

Cumberland Foxes v Croydon Kings

Enfield Falcons v Northern Demons

Seaford Surfers v Noarlunga Bulldogs

Port Pirie City v Western Strikers

Cobras v Hills Hawks

WOLLONGONG NEWS

By Otto Bader

Wolves Sinking Ship? The club has been rocked with the sudden resignation of President Joe Cachia and CEO Mike Crowe. Business commitments and personal family related obligations were given as reasons.

Joe Cachia - a quiet achiever has been involved with the Wolves from the early years, yet remains a club shareholder and stated his continued assistance as well as active support. At this time Mr. Cachia is not in a position to be able to delineate the amount of time required — just about a full time job — to run the club to progress successfully. He claimed the club is in a sound financial position, it is not a case of jumping from the sinking ship.

Mike Crowe joined the Wolves in December 2001, picked as the best qualified from a dozen applicants, refused to

comment on his decision to resign after such short spell. It is a shame to lose two able members of the club.

The Wolves Board extended a special vote of thanks to both officials who expressed their regret at leaving the Wollongong Wolves.

An interim President will be appointed until the club's annual general meeting in September.

Illawarra Soccer Round 7 Review @ Prospects in next games.

ICU Premier League: present competition table changed slightly on 2nd, 3rd, 4th spots, two rather surprising results, highest scored goals four in round 7, total scored win or loss of all games played 21 goals, plenty of excitement.

1st place still held by Lysaght on 14 points, 4 wins, 2 draws, 1 loss.

2nd is Picton Rangers, also on 14 points, won 4, drawn 4, lost 1, moved up

the ladder with wins in the last two games.

3rd is Kembla, on 13 points, 4 wins, 1 draw, 2 lost, could drop down further if not lifting performances.

4th is Port Kembla on 12 points, slowest start ever for this successful club, 3 wins, 3 draws, 1 loss, battles at present with key players out injured.

5th is Wollongong Olympic, dropped one spot, on 11 points, still well positioned, 3 wins, 2 draws, 2 lost, will hold on firmly.

6th is Coniston Lions, steady side, on 11 points also, 3 wins, 2 draws, 2 lost.

7th is Cringila Lions, on 11 points also, some good results lately. 3 wins, 2 draws, 2 lost.

8th is Bulli on 6 points, poor season so far, used to better times, 1 win only, 3 draws, lost 3.

9th is Balgownie on 6 points also, lost heavily against a top side, only 2 wins, no draws, lost 5, looks like battling over the

coming games.

10th is Kiama, newly promoted, young side, on 6 points also, struggling to compete to stay in the top league.

11th is West Illawarra, not a familiar position for this past successful side, on 6 points also, 2 wins, no draws, lost 5 games.

12th is Tarrawanna, newcomers, struggling being in last spot, on 5 points, 1 win, 2 draws, 4 lost.

ICU Conference League after 7 rounds: the top spot still held by Dapto with 19 points - strong win in last match, total 6 wins, 1 draw, no loss, two points in front. 2nd is Albion Park WE on 17 points scoring a record of 7 goals in their last match.

3rd is Berkeley also on 17 points, held to a draw in last outing. 4th is Highlands recording a solid win. 5th University moving up the ladder, never

underestimate the students. 6th is Warilla Wanderers despite a scoreless draw in last game. The other sides from 7th to 16th shifted one of two places in the last round. A total of 29 goals were scored in this round.

Next round 9 in Premier League

— played on 1/6/02: Kiama v Tarrawanna, Picton Rangers v Cringila,

Port Kembla v Kembla, Coniston Lions v Balgownie Rangers, Lysaght v Bulli, Wollongong Olympic v West Illawarra.

Round 9 in Conference League:

Albion Park WE v Dapto, Bellambi v Berkeley, Ruse v Fernhill, Woonona v Helensburgh, Warilla Wanderers v Highlands, University v Northern United, South Coast United v Barbs, Shoalhaven City v Shellharbour City.

Warilla Wanderers - in Conference League welcomes the return of stalwart

Joe Moreno, served in past years as coach, President and also in every other club



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Premier League Review By Glenn Davis

ROCHEDALE ROVERS IN RELEGATION TROUBLE

Rochedale Rovers' coach Keiran Cooper is refusing to throw open the cheque book to save his embattled club from possible relegation despite going down 3-1 to Taringa Rovers at Jack Speare Park on Saturday night.

With the Queensland premier league at the halfway mark next weekend, Rochedale remain winless and entrenched on the bottom of the table with just three points from three draws in ten matches.

As has been the case all season, the young Rochedale outfit were more than competitive against Taringa but lack of concentration cost them dearly after they took an early 1-nil lead from striker Cameron Hunt midway through the first half.

Taringa got back on level terms just before halftime when striker Steve Unsworth finished off a cross from Scott Robertson on the left.

The match was evenly poised and Rochedale pressured Taringa after the break before it eventually conceded when substitute midfielder Reza Asyen side footed home at the far post again after a Robertson cross midway into the second half.

Taringa snatched the winner ten minutes from fulltime when Craig Slaughter broke quick from midfield to slot home from a tight angle.

The loss left Cooper bewildered.

"I can't put a finger on what's going wrong. We've led in a number of games but for some reason, and I think it's concentration, we keep losing," Cooper said.

"We are a bit inexperienced but we've got plenty of players who have played first team football."

"For 20 minutes against Taringa we were giving them a hiding and it was a bit unfair for either side to win."

"I can't afford to let this club go down

and I'm on the look out for some players but I'm not going back to the old days of throwing stupid money away to win nothing."

Cooper, who was one of Queensland's leading goal scorers for many seasons in his playing days last decade, isn't panicking just yet.



Glen Kolpak: Scored Brisbane City's winning goal in their 2-1 defeat of Ipswich Knights.

"We're not that bad a side but we are where we are and I'm being realistic," he said.

"We've got a great junior set-up and I've got to give the kids at this club something to aim for, so it's imperative we stay up."

"The social club is now travelling well and our club's finances are fine but I've got to built a team to a budget."

Taringa coach John Ogden also is on a low budget and like Rochedale has lost a numbers of players with serious injury.

"We're also operating on a small budget like Rochedale and from the start of the season we've lost nine first team players," Ogden said.

"I think Rochedale are too good a side to go down but it was a big game for both clubs."

"If we had lost we would have been down with some of the teams fighting for relegation."

However, Taringa's win elevated them to 11 points and within range of pressuring for a Top Six play-off at the end of the season.

"The competition seems to be developing into a top six and bottom six but I think we're the only club now who can put the pressure on those top six clubs," Ogden said.

"Everyone is saying the top six is

already decided but we're in with a chance now."

Despite losing several key players for the season with injury, Ogden was upbeat about his side's performances to date.

"We've played well for most of the games so far but just not getting the results," he said.

"The only game we didn't play well was in the second half against North Star when they put four past us after the break."

"I'm very confident we can push on from here."

"Rochedale didn't have many great chances to score against us but they were desperate and put us under a lot of pressure for a fair while."

Second placed Brisbane City took advantage of the postponement between leaders Queensland Lions and third placed Gold Coast with a hard fought 2-1 win over Ipswich Knights at Bundamba.

Coach Frank Pimblett was less than happy with his side's performance against his former club after taking a 2-nil half time lead in a Jekyll and Hyde performance.

Brisbane City went ahead 1-nil midway through the opening half when Raj Kumar drove a free kick home past Ipswich keeper Adrian Walker while strike Glen Kolpak wrong footed Walker a minute before the interval for a commanding 2-nil lead.

However, Ipswich dominated after the break but couldn't reduce City's lead until late in the game when Queensland striker Peter Hinks found the net.

"Our first half was as good as we've played but our second half was one of our worst," Pimblett said.

"We knew they wouldn't throw in the towel at half time and would fight back but we were too complacent in the second half," Pimblett said.

"We had no intensity after the break and very little work rate."

"It'd baffling to me."

Pimblett was disappointed with his side's poor passing which gave Ipswich too much possession but overall believed the better side won.

North Star bounced back from their first loss in four games to Brisbane City last week with a 3-nil home win over Toowoomba.

North Star and Toowoomba were deadlocked at half time before Louis Harris, Sebastian Tatchell and Angelo Gullota netted after the break as the visitors ran riot.

The win cemented North Star's fifth place position and put a four points break over nearest rivals Ipswich.

At Heath Park, Easts eased away from the relegation zone and joined Taringa on 11 points with a 2-1 home win over Wynnum while The Gap registered its second win of the season with a 1-nil win over Mt. Gravatt.

Easts and Wynnum went to the break 1-all at halftime after the Tigers scored through Shaun Coffey and the Wolves via Owen Filewood before Coffey bagged his second and Easts winner after the break.



Shane Coffey: Eastern Suburbs star grabbed a double in his side's 2-1 win over Wynnum.

WEEKEND FIRST GRADE FIXTURES

◆ ROUND 11 ◆

Friday 31st May
Brisbane City v Eastern Suburbs

7.30pm



Saturday 1st June

Mt Gravatt v Taringa Rovers
Rochedale Rov v North Star
T'wamba Raiders v IPSW Knights
Wynnum v Queensland Lions

6.00pm
7.00pm
7.00pm
7.00pm

Sunday 2nd June
Gold Coast City v The Gap

3.00pm

PREMIER LEAGUE - Round 10							
	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts
Queensland Lions	9	9	0	0	24	3	27
Brisbane City	10	8	1	1	23	11	25
Gold Coast City	9	6	1	2	28	9	20
North Star	10	5	3	1	20	10	19
IPSW Knights	10	4	3	3	22	15	15
Wynnum	10	5	5	0	12	17	15
Taringa Rovers	10	3	5	2	12	16	11
Eastern Suburbs	10	3	5	2	13	19	11
The Gap	10	2	5	3	9	23	9
T'wamba Raiders	10	0	5	5	10	19	5
Mt Gravatt	10	1	7	2	7	26	5
Rochedale Rovers	10	0	7	3	12	24	3
ROUND 9 RESULTS							
Eastern Suburbs	2		Wynnum			1	
Brisbane City	2		IPSW Knights			1	
North Star	3		T'wamba Raiders			0	
Taringa Rovers	3		Rochedale Rovers			1	
The Gap	1		Mt Gravatt			0	
Qld Lions v Gold Coast City - to be played 29th May 7.30pm							
FIRST DIVISION - Round 12							
	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts
Pine Rivers Utd	12	10	1	1	28	7	31
Souths Utd	12	9	2	1	38	11	28
Bundaberg Waves	12	8	2	2	28	13	26
Mitchelton	12	7	2	3	34	17	24
Inala City	12	5	4	3	24	17	18
Rocklea Utd	12	6	6	0	24	27	18
Capalaba	12	4	3	5	26	19	15
Newmarket	12	5	7	0	16	19	15
Redlands Utd	12	4	5	3	15	26	15
Uni Of QLD	11	3	4	4	23	20	13
Albany Creek	12	3	6	3	13	32	8
Grange Thistle	12	2	8	2	9	32	8
Slacks Creek	12	0	8	4	9	24	4
Brisbane Olympic Utd	11	0	8	3	2	25	3
ROUND 12 RESULTS							
Bundaberg Waves	8		Albany Creek			1	
Brisbane Olympic Utd	-		Uni Of Qld			-	
Souths Utd	1		Capalaba			0	
Grange Thistle	1		Slacks Creek			1	
Rocklea Utd	3		Inala City			2	
Mitchelton	3		Redlands Utd			0	
Pine Rivers Utd	2		Newmarket			0	

Knights stay put in their castle

The Melbourne Knights would like to put to an end to recent speculation about moving venues next season.

"Relocating to another venue is simply not cost effective," announced President Ange Cimera after the club's recent Board meeting.

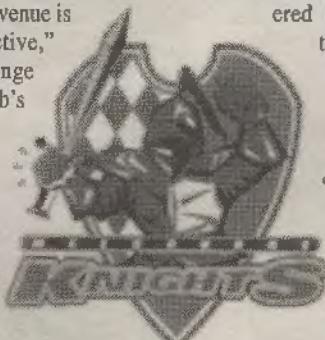
"We have done a cost analysis of the various venues and compared the revenue projections. It would be commercial suicide, to pay rent elsewhere and lose the catering revenue at the same time."

Mr Cimera also added - "The decision

to play an additional 13 rounds, may make sense to clubs who have full time players sitting idle for several months of the year, but have they really considered the costs of staging these extra games?

"Perception - does not always make the numbers stack up.

"We didn't support the concept at the meeting, nor do we intend to consider supporting it unless rumoured pay concessions being supported by the APFA are actually delivered."



VICTORIAN PREMIER LEAGUE STATS

ROUND 14 RESULTS

Friday, 24 May, 8:15 PM

Whittlesea Stallions SC 0 Altona Magic SC 0

Saturday, 25 May, 3:00 PM

Fitzroy City SC 0 Green Gully Cavaliers SC 3
(Nastevski D, Tsaltas N (2))

Sunday, 26 May, 3:00 PM

St Albans Saints SC 2 Bulleen Zebras SC 1
(Silic M, Cuze M) (Rusmir S)

Preston Lions SC 0 Bentleigh Greens SC 4
(Karapatsos T, Drakos S, Nilo J, McDonagh G)

Altona East Phoenix SC 0 Fawkner Blues SC 0

Heidelberg United SC 2 Port Melb. Sharks SC 2
(Vojtek D, Kovacic A) (Psarros P, Poutakidis S)



Bulleen Zebras SC vs. Altona East Phoenix SC
Fawkner Blues SC vs. Preston Lions SC
Sun, 2 June, 6:00 PM
Green Gully Cavaliers SC vs. St Albans Saints SC

2002 PREMIER LEAGUE ROUND 14

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
1. Fawkner Blues SC	14	7	5	2	23	14	26
2. Bentleigh Greens SC	14	6	7	1	22	12	25
3. Green Gully Cavaliers SC	14	7	3	4	16	8	24
4. Port Melbourne Sharks SC	14	6	4	4	30	24	22
5. Altona East Phoenix SC	14	5	6	3	16	12	21
6. Whittlesea Stallions SC	14	4	8	2	19	20	20
7. Preston Lions SC	14	5	3	6	19	19	18
8. Altona Magic SC	14	4	5	5	23	19	17
9. St Albans Saints SC	14	4	3	7	9	21	15
10. Heidelberg United SC	14	3	5	6	24	36	14
11. Fitzroy City SC	14	3	3	8	10	21	12
12. Bulleen Zebras SC	14	2	4	8	20	25	10

FIXTURES - ROUND 15

Saturday, 1 June, 7:30 PM

Altona Magic SC vs. Fitzroy City SC

Sunday, 2 June, 3:00 PM

Port Melbourne Sharks SC vs. Whittlesea Stallions SC
Bentleigh Greens SC vs. Heidelberg United SC

ACT PREMIERSHIP WRAP-UP

By Graham Cooke

The generational changes currently sweeping though the ACT Premiership were never more apparent than at Woden Park Oval on Sunday as Canberra Olympic continued their remarkable revival with a 3-2 win over Belconnen United.

Olympic gave starts to a couple of 16-year-olds, Meshi Ravanpasa and Stephen Polglase, and Belconnen brought a famous name in ACT soccer back to the competition with the debut of David Reis, son of Alan, the NSL, NSW League and ACT Premiership star of the 1980s and early 90s.

But in the end it was a player who was around during Alan Reis' best years, Toplica Popovich, who made the difference.

Not only did he score an important goal for Olympic with a trademark header from a corner to make it 2-0, he cajoled and harangued a youthful and sometimes hesitant defence, piloting them through the difficult minutes and ensuring they did

enough to keep Belconnen from snatching a point or more.

Fortune played a part in the game. Belconnen might easily have drawn in the closing moments; Olympic coach Vic Fernandez was left wondering how Elia Salloum, with three, perhaps four clear chances, did not decorate the score sheet. "I think he should go in the Guinness Book of Records for the most misses in a single game," he said afterwards.

One player who was on target was Dimi Brendas, his second-minute strike setting the tone for the game. United, still settling in, saw the danger too late, and allowed him far too much time to line up his shot.

Popovich's header gave Olympic a cushion but it did not last long. A shot from Ben Agostino was half stopped by the agile David Collins in the Olympic goal, but Mark Pietrukowski was well placed to tap the loose ball home.

Reis bothered goalkeeper David Benoit with a lob that was curling under the upright, but it was Olympic that scored next - and if Brendas had been

assisted by the Belconnen defence with his first goal, he gave them no chance with the second, a thundering drive from outside the penalty area which beat Collins with raw power.

Again the two-goal lead was short-lived, within 90 seconds a fine shot from Sean Robson found the back of the net, but despite having the better of the last quarter of the contest, United could not find the equaliser and Olympic stretched their unbeaten run to four games.

Fernandez said his side paid the penalty for sitting back at different stages of the game. "You are always going to pay for that against a side like Belconnen," he said.

United coach Oscar Langone said the sides had provided the spectators with an attractive spectacle. "I would have been happy with a draw and we battled hard for it, but in the end it was not to be," he said.

Gungahlin Juventus continued their current run of good form, following last week's draw with league leader Canberra Deakin by beating second-

placed Monaro 5-3. The result brings Juventus, the defending premiers, into third place in the table.

A last-minute goal gave Capital City Suns a 2-1 win over Tuggeranong United and goals from Zvonko Usljebrka (2) and Alex Castro saw Deakin home 3-0 against Weston Creek Royals in the top versus bottom contest.

ACT PREMIERSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Canberra Deakin	6	5	1	0	22	3	16
Monaro	6	4	1	1	16	8	13
Gungahlin Juventus	7	3	3	1	22	16	12
Tuggeranong United	7	3	1	3	12	12	10
Capital City Suns	7	2	3	2	12	9	9
Canberra Olympic	7	2	3	2	11	18	9
Belconnen United	7	2	0	5	10	13	6
Weston Creek Royals	7	0	0	7	3	28	0

SOCCKET WOMAN BY JANENE MAR

FRANKFURT UEFA CUP CHAMPS

The inaugural UEFA Women's Cup, the European club champions tournament and the first women's event of its kind in the world, has been run and won. German club FFC Frankfurt are the historic first champions after defeating Umea IK of Sweden 2-0 in Thursday night's final in Frankfurt.

Frankfurt entered the match having not lost a game in any competition since June last year, whilst Umea were on a 54-game streak without defeat. Second half goals from the head of German stars Steffie Jones and Birgit Prinz ended Umea's run and gave Frankfurt the historic title. The two scorers were playing their last match for Frankfurt before heading off to take up professional contracts in the US.

Umea, missing internationals Tina Nordlund (injury) and Hanna Ljungberg (suspension), held the Germans to a scoreless first half, but tired in the second half and finally fell to the class and power of Frankfurt.

Thirty-four nations entered their champion club into the event, the prospect of playing in Europe certain to add the greatest incentive at club level around the continent for many years to come.

EURO CHAMPIONSHIP UPDATE

Europe, the hotbed of football, has a fantastic system of qualification to the FIFA Women's World Cup, catering for its large number of participating nations in a fair and equal manner.

The UEFA Women's Championship serves as qualifiers to the World Cup for Groups 1 to 4, whilst the second tier of nations, Groups 5 to 8, compete for possible promotion to the top tier to therefore be in contention for the 2007 World Cup. The first-placed teams in Groups 5

to 8 play off against the bottom teams from Groups 1 to 4. With five World Cup berths up for grabs, the teams who finish second in Groups 1 to 4 play off for that last spot.

Sweden currently lead Group 2, three points ahead of rivals Denmark with two matches remaining, including one against the Danes. Group 3 is anyone's guess with a mixture of results between Russia, Italy, Spain, and Iceland. Russia are at present one point ahead of Italy and Spain.

In the 2003 World Cup stakes, Germany became the first team to qualify when last month they secured first place in Group 4, whilst England are assured of second and a World Cup playoff. The Group matches have since been completed, Germany showing their dominance with a perfect win record.

Norway was next to qualify for the 2003 FIFA Women's World Cup after defeating France 3-1 earlier this month. Their fifth win from as many games gave them an unassailable lead atop Group 1 of the UEFA Championship ahead of France.

Sweden currently lead Group 2, three points ahead of rivals Denmark with two matches remaining, including one against the Danish contenders.

Russia's two matches last week moved them much closer to the prize in Group 3, by far the tightest of the groups. Russia however did stumble with a draw against Iceland last Saturday, the second time the two have shared the points. Four days later, Russia defeated Italy to give them eleven points from their six matches, putting them out of reach of Spain and Italy. Fourth-placed Iceland are still mathematically in with a chance of toppling Russia but would need to win both their remaining games by comfortable scores.

In the promotion/relegation battle, Portugal dropped to bottom of Group 4 after going down to previous cellar-dwellers The Netherlands last week. Czech Republic are the only first-tier team to tally nil points to date and are confirmed to finish last in Group 1.

Scotland secured top place in Group 5 with their win against Wales last week, edging out Belgium on goal difference, and the Scots earn a playoff against Czech Republic. Yugoslavia beat off the challenge of Republic of Ireland to win Group 6. Poland claimed first place in Group 7 with victory over Romania, their seventh win from as many games so far, and will playoff against Portugal. Hungary were similarly dominant, also winning every game to date in topping Group 8.

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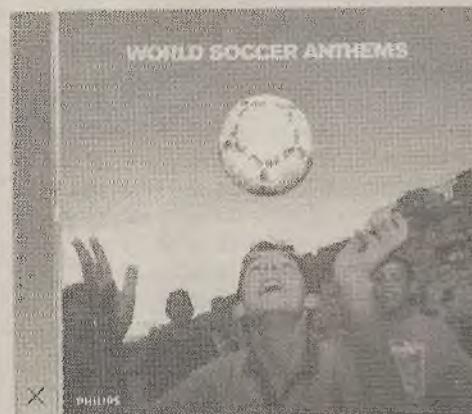
WOLLONGONG	12	3	1	8	9/28	10
GLADESVILLE	11	2	3	6	9/24	9
MINGARA	12	1	3	8	8/39	6
NWS KOALAS	12	0	0	12	6/43	0

NSW WOMEN'S STATE LEAGUE

after ROUND 10

	UTS	2	SCHOFIELDS	1
ST.GEORGE	4	UWS		0
		SYD. UNI vs GRANVILLE and UNI NSW vs ROSELANDS washed out, MACARTHUR RAMS bye		
	P	W	D	L
MAC. RAMS	8	7	1	0
UTS	9	6	0	3
ROSELANDS	8	5	1	2
ST.GEORGE	9	4	3	2
GRANVILLE	8	4	2	2
SYD. UNI	8	3	2	3
SCHOFIELDS	9	2	0	7
UNI NSW	8	1	3	4
UWS WOLVES	9	0	0	9

SCORE WITH ABSW WORLD CUP GIVEAWAY



Anthems of the World.

3 Days to go...

As the World Cup approaches, excitement is reaching fever pitch.

We have a giveaway to whet the appetite. ABSW is giving away 10 Anthems CDs courtesy of Universal Music.

We are also giving away a taste of Japan and Korea through Lonely Planet guides. We are giving readers the chance to experience the unique cultures of the two host countries whilst staying at home. A Lonely Planet phrasebook and country guide for each country will be given away (1 package for Japan and 1 for Korea).

Simply answer the following trivia questions and write in 25 words or less what the World Cup means to you, be creative as prizes will be awarded to those with all trivia answers correct and the best writing piece.

Winners will be decided upon on Friday 31st May, start of the World Cup Finals and announced in ABSW on Tuesday 4th June.

Good Luck.

Woods resigns as SA Deputy Chairman

Soccer Australia announced that Mr Greg Woods has resigned as Deputy Chairman and as a member of the Board of Commissioners.

Mr Woods made the decision to resign for personal reasons.

In commenting on the resignation, Soccer Australia Chairman Ian Knop paid tribute to Mr Woods' outstanding record of service to soccer.

"I was very disappointed when Greg announced at the Board Meeting that he intended to resign as Deputy Chairman for personal reasons.

"Greg has been a tremendous servant to the game of soccer for many years. He has served on tribunals, the NSW and National Referees' Commissions, the Player Relations Committee and as a Director and Vice President of the NSW Soccer Federation.

"Since 1998, he has been a Commissioner of Soccer Australia and I have worked closely with him as Deputy Chairman since August last year.

"Greg has worked tirelessly and achieved many things for soccer in this country. He has brought a great personal passion, combined with his tremendous legal and administrative skills, to the game.

"I have counted him as both a friend and a colleague through the difficult period of reform we have been implementing since August and I have greatly valued his hard work and wise counsel.

"He will be missed by the Board and his other colleagues at Soccer Australia and we all thank him for his contribution and wish him well for the future" Mr. Knop concluded.



Anthems CD

Q1) In what year did England win the World Cup?

Q2) Which country has won the most World Cups? How many?

Q3) How many times has China appeared in the World Cup Finals tournament?

Q4) Which famous player will not be allowed into Japan to watch the World Cup Finals?

Q5) Who scored the first ever World Cup goal?

Q6) Which superstar was the youngest player to net a World Cup goal?

Q7) Who is the leading World Cup scorer of all time?

Q8) Which two players have appeared in the most World Cup Finals tournaments?

Q9) What is the most number of goals scored in a World Cup Finals match (combined aggregate of both teams)? Who played and what was the score?

Q10) What was the score between England and Argentina in the 2nd round at the France 98 Finals (after extra-time)?

Japan Package

Q1) How many islands comprise Japan? Name them.

Q2) What does the flag of Japan comprise of?

Q3) What is the name of Japan's soccer league?

Q4) What is the monetary unit of Japan?

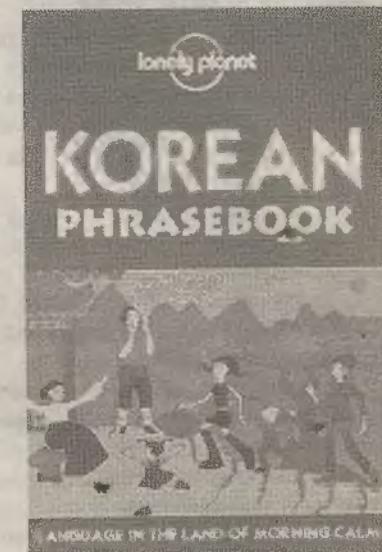
Q5) What is the national dress for Japanese females?



From Asia to Zen

Top: Guide to Japan.

Bottom: Korean Phrasebook.



Email your answers to
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with title Giveaways.

Soccer proves most popular after ABS survey

Soccer is by far the most popular sport in terms of participation of the four football codes, according to an Australian Bureau of Statistics survey.

Soccer finished well ahead of Australian football, with Rugby League a distant third and Rugby Union well behind in fourth spot, in the ABS Survey results.

Participation in Sport- ABS Survey Results

Sport - Adult Numbers - Junior Numbers - Total Nationally
Rugby Union - 45,500 - 36,900 - 82,400
Rugby League - 91,500 - 95,100 - 186,600
Soccer - 192,200 - 323,400 - 515,600
AFL - 188,000 - 174,400 - 362,400

NOTES:

* Adult Participation Rates taken from ABS Survey (4177) 1999-2000 (includes only over 18 years of age respondents)

* Junior Participation Rates taken from ABS Survey (4901) 2001 (includes 5-14 years of age respondents)

* Figures do not necessarily relate to registered players instead are players involved in organised activities. They responded to the survey question of playing the sport in an organised format at least once per week

2002 NSW STATE TEAM Queens Birthday Weekend State Team Challenge NSW v Victoria



Monday 10th June
3pm



MELITA STADIUM

Everley St, South Granville

Also on the day:

NSW Women's Super League

NSW Academy v North West Sydney Koalas

1st Grade: 1pm

U/21: 11am



ABSW CORRESPONDENTS FOR WORLD CUP 2002



1 THE VOICE — COLIN TURNER



COMMENTATORS WISH LIST FOR WORLD CUP 2002

By Colin Turner

Sitting behind the microphone and waiting for that count down to begin in your headphones, all ready to commentate on the game, there is no doubt that every caller has butterflies in his stomach.

You may have called thousands of games before, but there is no game like the opening game of a World Cup.

All your research, the many hours you spent in studying everything about every player now sees you put to the test. The adrenaline is flowing through your body you wait for that signal from the production crew to "Start speaking Commentator" or "Take it away commentator," once you hear those words it's now Your World Cup.

There is no way that you can rehearse what is going to happen in a game of football, that will reveal itself in

front of you, over the next 90 minutes.

When Zoe Ghani my producer at Radio Two speaks into my headphones and says "It's all yours Col" "I am now the lone voice of the game for the listeners on Radio Two."

The game will develop before your eyes and its now your job to call or describe all that action.

While sitting quietly in the commentary box, (and before the producers voice calls you to action), I will have gone through thousands of things I have to remember and know that I will have split seconds to recall them for my listeners.

The one thing the listener will not hear, is my heart beating faster, but you try to stay as calm as you can. There are many things I could tell the listeners of the happening's behind the microphones in a game of football, but that would take up this whole page.

However, I will tell you that for every World Cup that I have covered I have always had a wish list. Things I want to happen, so that the thousands of new followers to the game all over the world will remember for a long time. Things to give them great memories.

2. Wish List.

For this World Cup I hope that the People of Japan and South Korea will have a very enjoyable time. They

have, (as I have witnessed) put a great deal of hard work into organizing the whole show.

As a commentator, I want to describe many exciting and interesting games.

I will want every game to be a great contest I want it to be a game of Chess, with 26 moving parts on the ground.

22 Players, 1 referee, and his two assistants, and of course "the ball".

I want to see this World Cup to be full of sportsmanship.

I want to see a player from one Nation help the opponent up off the grass after a tumble.

I want No Television Station News Editor to show 3 minutes of hooligans fighting, and causing trouble in a town, while he shows just 30 seconds of football action from the game the World plays.

I wish that England had a right wing back, as I do not rate, Danny Mills or Wes Brown capable of filling that role. I want to see Ashley Cole the England left sided player show us his real talent, as he could be one star of this tournament. I want to see the Brazilians return to playing skillful football.

I want Rivaldo and Denilson to produce all their flair and skill.

I want to see Jose Luis Chilavert the Paraguay goalkeeper, score from a penalty and also miss one.

I want to see the African teams learn that they have to defend. They must show me that they are not afraid to tackle an opponent.

I want to see the supporters of all nations congratulate

each other on team performances and not want to beat each other up.

I want all those VIP in the Best seats in the Grandstands, and the privilege boxes, to show us when the TV cameras are pointed in their direction, that they know something about the game and not look bored.

I don't want to see the situation where a TV director cuts away to a person in the Stadium and the commentator does not know who they are.

3. I want this World Cup to be the best one; some in the past have been good, and some bad and some, where I wanted to get away after the early rounds.

I want all the team squads to be a happy group of players and not be like the Dutch of the last three World Cups, brilliant players, but could not stand each other off the park.

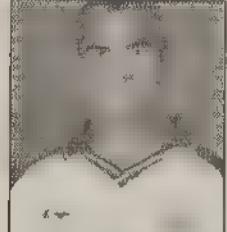
Even though we live in a very strange world I want the players to realize and appreciate the supporters who have traveled miles and paid out a great deal of money to come and support them as the representatives of a Country.

I want the players to recognize the effort put in by those supporters.

I want the television viewers and the listeners on Radio to enjoy every minute of the World Cup, and finally I want all commentators all over the world to have a very successful tournament.

Who will win? take your pick. Argentina, France, Italy, Portugal.

2 THE PLAYER — CRAIG FOSTER



By Craig Foster

Mixed feelings are the order of the day for me this week, as I'm sure for most Aussie soccer fans.

Anticipation of the greatest collection of the world's best footballers turning on the style and skill, of seeing unbelievable acts of ball skill, breathtaking goals, and heroics beyond most of us, tinged with regret at the absence, once again, of our beloved Socceroos.

The last few days have been particularly poignant as I prepare for the SBS live matches,

reading stat after stat, one can't help wonder how Kewell would have stacked up against Batistuta, how Moore would have handled Owen, or if Okon could overrun the great Veron or Ballack?

Still, like even the most fervent Aussies, once the tournament begins I will be totally absorbed in the drama.

The beauty of the World Cup for me is about the individuals. Every Cup can be defined by one or two players. Pele 70, Beckenbauer 74, Kempes 78, Maradona '86, Matthaus 90, Romario, and Roger Milla 94, Zidane 98, who in 2002?

Will Zidane continue to define his generation by taking France to back to back titles, something only Brazil and Italy have achieved?

Can France maintain their dominance of world football, or will the magnificence of Veron, Batistuta, Crespo and Ortega carry the Argentines to a victory that would resurrect their countrymen's battered spirit?

And what of Germany, the perennial tough as teak competitors? Despite their famous national determination and pride, maybe the attrition of their best will be too much, with Nowoñny, Scholl, Daisler and others ruled out. It's hard to see them being the force of old, particularly when they lack the might up front of a Muller, Rumenigge, Voeller or Klinsmann.

A glance at the rankings of World Cup games played shows the traditional powerhouses, Brazil, Germany, Italy, Argentina, England and France. In these former champions there will be no surprises, but who will come from the pack? Double winners Uruguay are a chance, Spain are a real show, especially if Raul produces his best under enormous pressure from the Spanish fans,

South Korea and USA have a chance, particularly coming from a weak Group D with Poland and Portugal.

What a stir it would create if an Asian team wins through to the second round, Japan certainly are an outside chance, they will not fear Russia, Tunisia or Belgium.

As for China, who knows? Second place behind Brazil in Group C is up for grabs, with Turkey favorites, but China or Costa Rica could pull off a miracle.

Whatever the permutations thrown up, we know we are in for a feast of spectacular football, a chance to watch and marvel as the world's greatest test themselves under the most intense pressure you or I can imagine, and at the end, a truly worthy winner of the world's biggest, grandest, and most watched sporting competition, the World Cup.

Can't wait, can you?

3 THE FRENCH CONNECTION — ALAIN BARATAUD



By Alain Barataud

France is on its way to win its second title

France stands alone in the World Cup - it is undoubtedly the best team in the world closely followed by Argentina.

Can the French team be surprised in the first round? No. The team is strong, confident and the players are extremely focused. As they say in France, the team all speak the same language and that is France is here to win again and to return the trophy to Paris for the second time.

Robert Pires, said just before leaving Paris for Korea, "Ok, I missed the squad because of my knee reconstruction but I was with the team in Paris before we departed to Asia and I can say that all the players are very focused and are anxious for competition to begin.

My feeling is that the team is going to win again and they're going to win for me as well."

France is defending its title. They are a great team with great spirit and are going into the tournament in great physical and mental form and they have the world's best player, Zinedine Zidane, who is at the peak of his career.

The team is stronger than in the 1998 World Cup and everybody asks the same question: Who can beat the French?

In 1998, the team was very strong defensively with a very good midfield though was poor offensively. Today, they have the same team including four of the best strikers in the world such as Trezeguet, Henry, Wiltord and the brilliant new Djibril Cisse. Between these four, they have scored more than one hundred goals in the best European league this year.

"The French team is a technical machine very ambitious and offensively so strong!", said Aime Jacquet.

France have never in the past had such a strong

team where all positions are covered by two players of equal ability and on top of that the atmosphere and spirit within the team is magic as Gregory Coupet can testify, "The atmosphere is fantastic. Nothing can happen to us!"

France is so rich that they have 23 players that all are on the same level. Just one concern is if Youri Djorkaeff can still perform in the World Cup as in the past and can Christianval substitute as a

sweeper if something happens to the French defence? Maybe not and he could spend more time off the field than the others.

With Pires out of the picture, the worst thing that could happen to France would be to lose Zidane to injury or suspension. Without him, the French team does not perform the same - just look at what happened last Saturday against Belgium where France lost 1-2.

Can Recoba and Uruguay stop France? Can Denmark and their fantastic supporters upset the French players or can Senegal surprise France in the opening game like the underdogs Cameroon in

1990 World Cup against Argentina where they beat the World Champions with Maradona, 1-0?

There's a lot of guessing as to what's going to

happen in the tournament but the French

know how much to keep focused and to stay on top. For France the serious side of the competition will start in the 2nd round facing Argentina, Nigeria, Sweden or England.

In the words of Roger Lemerre, French coach, "If we're here - it's to win. I know, we can do it again but be careful - it's no easy game."



Robert Pires: French star will be out of action during the World Cup.



KOREA, JAPAN

ABSW CORRESPONDENTS FOR WORLD CUP 2002



KOREA, JAPAN

4 THE LEGEND - RALE RASIC

THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH

Rale Rasic
He is the only coach in this country who knows what it is like to have a team at the World Cup. Rale Rasic, Football Manager of Marconi Stallions, will head our team of experts and will write an exclusive World Cup column for the Australian/British Soccer Weekly.

Passion, tradition and showbiz - there is nothing to compare to the World Cup - and this one will have more of each ingredient than ever before.

Never in the history of the Cup have two countries shared this event; two countries with two different cultural backgrounds, two different languages, but share a common perception on how football should be played.

The Japanese have over the past 15 years been heavily influenced by many experts from no other, than Brazil I'm positive that this influence will determine their level of success in this tournament. The Koreans, at the beginning, relied on their own coaches but in the last five years, have been heavily influenced by Eastern European experts.

One has to realise how great an honor it is to be part of this global show. Many countries with high reputations will not take part in this tournament e.g. Holland, Scotland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Romania, Columbia and Norway. On the other hand, unframed countries such as Senegal, South Africa, Slovenia, China (first time in 44 years under legendary coach Bora Milutinovic) and Turkey (first time after 47 years have qualified for the Cup).

Many big time players and coaches, including our own Socceroos will not be privileged to be part of this unique tournament. Our own superstars Harry Kewell and Mark Viduka would, I'm sure, have done everything possible to be part of this show and some

unfortunate superstars such David Beckham, captain of England, may also miss out due to injury. England's coach Sven Goran Eriksson would have many sleepless nights over the fitness of his captain.

So what can a coach do? Let's face it, if you haven't planned for a catastrophe at this level, you haven't done your job properly - you invite trouble.

This is what makes a great coach. As they go to sleep at night in their hotel rooms, they must be dreaming of team combinations. What happens if?

What about the player who is called upon to step into the boots of the greats. What will the man who has to take Beckham's place be thinking as they play the music before kick-off. With the roar of fans and a world-wide television audience of 1.5 to 2 billion - that is one in every five people in the world - will this be his chance to step up to greatness or will be crumble under this pressure. Dreams are made of this.

It is this kind of pressure that makes every World Cup special. It is an occasion that is impossible to escape, even if you are not a sports fan.

As a coach, it is impossible to pretend that a game at the World Cup is "just another game." There will be two teams waiting in the dressing rooms as the opening ceremony gets underway. Thirty other

nations will be at their hotels watching it on the television, knowing that in a day or two, they will be at the centre of the world's attention.

Should the coaches try to shut these teams off from the hype or allow them to soak up the atmosphere of this unique occasion? Is it fair to deny them the stories that they will tell their grandchildren?

For me, the more logical the approach the better. Every player competing in this tournament knows that it is quite simply the greatest experience on earth. If you try to pretend it is anything but that, you run the risk of looking like a fool in front of your team.

This is when you need old heads like Paolo Maldini, Batistuta, Zidane, Raul, Figo, Roberto Carlos etc.

They are the people who will make a difference, the people who inspire and dictate the terms. Apart from the obvious question about who is going to win the Mondial 2002, the world's football fans are wondering who the emerging prince will be. Who will be the star who grabs this tournament by the throat and stamps his class as a champion on it.

Of course, it could be anyone of hundreds, all of whom get their place in the sun, their one moment of glory

5 THE KAT-PETER KATHOLOS

By Peter Katholos

It is a pleasure to write for 'Australian and British Soccer Weekly'. I welcome all readers.

Peter Katholos
Well World Cup fever has hit all of us again and I can't wait.

This has all the hype to be one of the best World Cups held.

The venues of Japan and Korea are state of the art, with the playing pitches absolutely perfect.

With Channel Nine showing 16 games live and the balance by our Soccer station SBS, this is going to create Soccer madness and the marketing people in this country better get ready to take over after the World Cup as the marketing medi-

um will be in place and the market is ready to be tapped.

THE TEAMS

From all the teams that have qualified there are many chances: France, Italy, Argentina, Portugal and England just to name a few.

My choice to win the World Cup is France, with Argentina and Italy as the next choices.

I believe France have the abundance of experienced players that are playing in the top leagues of the world at this moment, and are competing with pressure at the highest level week in week out and that competitive experience is going to be the factor.

Players such as Thierry Henry, Patrick Viera, Sylvain Wiltord that have won the Championship and the FA Cup in England with Arsenal.

Marcel Desailly from Chelsea, Fabian Barthez, Mikael Silvestre from Man United, and the likes

of Vincent Candela and Lilian Thuram from Roma and Juventus plus Claude Makelele and Zinedine Zidane of Real Madrid give the French side, a squad that has competed in the highest level of competition for the past 3-4 years.

They have speed to burn, creativity, skill, discipline and I can't see any team stopping them from winning back to back World Cups.

Argentina on the other hand have a good crop of players at this moment and with the unique brand of football they can play and are certainly worth a shout!

Gabriel Batistuta, Claudio Caniggia, Hernan Crespo, Juan Sebastian Veron, they are players that have earned respect and could surprise.

Italy are also a team that possess skill, speed, discipline and creativity and with coach Giovanni Trapattoni in charge they are certainly a good chance

It is a pity that Roberto Baggio was not selected, I believe he would have made a wealth of difference to the morale of the team.

But with our own deadly Christian Vieri up front, Francesco Totti the architect and

Alessandro del Piero in fine touch they are a chance.

As for the others England, Germany don't have the creativity, Portugal don't have the temperament and the rest don't have the experience.

You might wonder what about Brazil! Well I don't give them a chance as their squad is raw and although they have some brilliant individuals they have not the team to compete with the big boys.

So here we are glued to our TV sets come 31st May.

Let the games begin. The advertising and marketing that this mega event will generate, lets hope all other sports realise that Soccer/Football is the Numero Uno.

Remarks like "Wog Ball" will hopefully fade away forever and maybe on the North Shore and the many private Schools in the country will finally realise that football so called Soccer should be the number one sport and the players should be encouraged.

See ya next week!

6 THE GUVNOR - KELLY CROSS

YOUTH COACHING with Kelly Cross

Kelly Cross
Kelly Cross has been Head Coach of Soccer at the NSW Institute of Sport for five years. He was also Assistant Coach of the Australian Under-17 team for two years, including the World Cup Final versus Brazil in 1999.

When ABSW approached Kelly to write a regular column on Youth Coaching, we came up with a number of topics which might be of interest to all coaches, but particularly those involved with young players.

We hope this column helps those coaches who are still learning the trade, and stimulates debate

amongst experienced colleagues.

Kelly will also monitor the success of young guns in the up and coming World Cup in Korea/Japan.

Soccer is a difficult game to master. A player must learn a great number of techniques; he should be shown where and when to run when he doesn't have the ball; when he's got the ball, he needs to know whether to run with it, or pass, or dribble, or shoot (and if so, where to run, who to pass to, which way to dribble, when to shoot, etc, etc) These are just some of the basics of the game that I have rattled off, and each of the headings mentioned will have a list of sub-headings beneath it.

It wouldn't take a genius to decide that to learn all the above would take years. How many years will depend on how many hours the player trains per week, the kind of training provided,

his ability to learn and many other factors. But let's say five years as a reasonable estimate.

Some of you may have noticed that the rough list above doesn't mention anything about tactics. How many more years will it take for a player to understand how to function as part of a team, to combine with his team-mates, to learn different styles of play, to adapt to opponents' tactics, etc? Five years? Ten years?

There's no correct answer, but my point is this: there must be a logical progression in a player's development.

Technique first, tactics later. Coaches must first give the player all the tools he might need before sending him out on the job. There was an excellent FIFA document published many years ago which suggested that in a player's development there is a decade of learning followed by a decade of expression.

There are many different opinions as to what ages constitute a player's technical development. Is it 9 - 14 years old? 11 - 15 years old? Some will say there is no set age, that it's sim-

pler than that: 'You can't go to university till you graduate from high school.' In other words, there's no point trying to teach you tactics if you haven't got a full range of techniques. By the same token, exceptionally talented youngsters should be moved on as soon as they are ready.

Eric Worthington, in his excellent book 'Teaching Soccer Skill', explains player development as a pyramid. 'Technique' is below 'group skill' and 'team skill' on the pyramid, implying that technique is the foundation for tactical work.

The point for junior coaches is that there is no shortcut. And if you are one of those junior coaches who gives his youngsters fitness work instead of technique practices, or tries to get his 12 year-olds to play the same tactics as Real Madrid, please consider the above. Respect the player's development. Know where he is on the ladder and teach him accordingly.

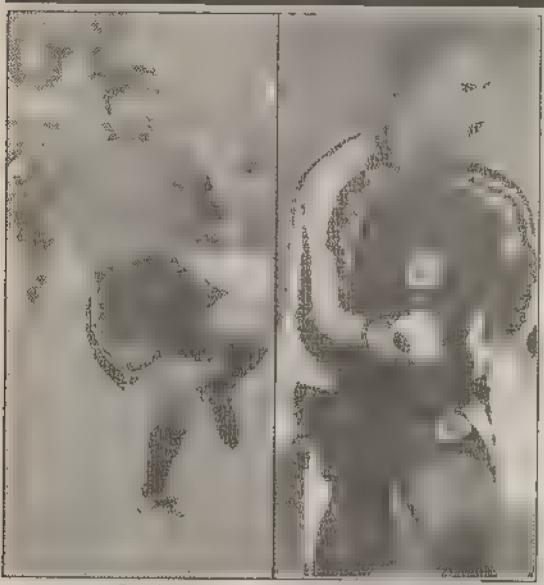
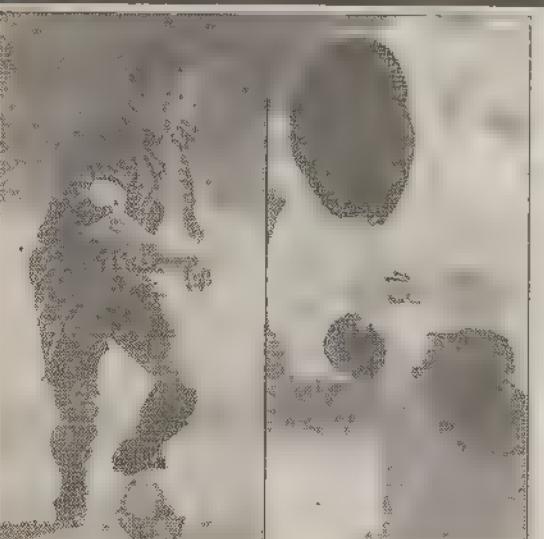
When you do that, coaching is a wonderful job!

(Next week, Kelly outlines some of the French philosophy of Youth Development)

NSWIS



WORLD CUP PREVIEWS

Zinedine Zidane
(France)Alvaro Recoba
(Uruguay)Raul
(Spain)Jose Chilavert
(Paraguay)Rivaldo
(Brazil)Hakan Suker
(Turkey)Luis Figo
(Portugal)Emmanuel Olisadebe
(Poland)

GROUP A

France v Senegal: Since 1990 every champion is reminded of Argentina v Cameroon. If the French do start slowly (and they have not done so in the last couple of World Cups that they have participated in) then the lads from Senegal won't be frightened to attack. This side from Africa is stocked full of players who ply their trade in France so it could be a very interesting affair.

Uruguay v Denmark: Both sides may see this match as a shoot out for the runners up position. Their should not be much between the two sides but Uruguay may be seeking revenge. In 1986 the two sides met in the finals and the Danes put Uruguay to the sword finishing 6-1 victors.

France v Uruguay: Despite the multiple appearances both nations have made in the finals they have only met each other once in the competition, that being in 1966. It was also the middle group match and on that day Uruguay defeated France 2-1. The odds on this occurring again are fairly high.

Senegal v Denmark: The Danes would be supremely confident of winning this match as the last time they played an African nation in the finals they won 4-1 (against Nigeria). However in 1998 they played South Africa in the second of their group matches and could only manage a 1-1 draw.

France v Denmark: France and Denmark were paired in the group stage of France 98 and the locals won 2-1. There is nothing about this new Danish team that suggests they will be changing this result this time around.

Uruguay v Senegal: This could be the most interesting game of the group, especially if both sides still have something to play for. The differences in style should be fairly big so it will be interesting to see which style wins out. One would think as an Australian supporter that Uruguay, having beaten the Aussies, should be able to put Senegal away but you never know.

John Dahl Tomasson
(Denmark)El Hadji Diouf
(Senegal)

GROUP B

Paraguay v South Africa

South Africa's debut match last World Cup was a 3-0 loss to eventual winners South Africa. Paraguay had a 0-0 draw with Bulgaria. Overall Paraguay have lost two, drawn two and won only one of their opening games. Should South Africa have any chance of getting second they need at least a point from this game.

Spain v Slovenia

Spain will look to start strongly against a first up effort from Slovenia. However Spain's first matches in the last three World Cups have been less than auspicious, losing 2-1 to Nigeria in 98, drawing 2-2 with South Korea in 94 and drawing 0-0 with Uruguay in 1990.

Spain v Paraguay

This should be the match that determines first place in the group and without Chilavert still Paraguay will go in as underdogs. However Spain will be under a lot of pressure this time around and could self implode.

South Africa v Slovenia

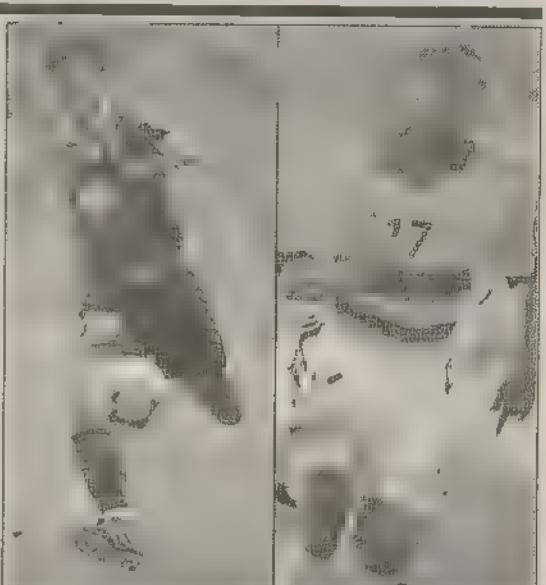
Whoever loses this match won't make the second round. Both sides will probably be looking for their first wins in the competition so there will be a lot to play for. Slovenia would probably go in slight favourites.

South Africa v Spain

This should be a game to wrap things up for Spain but should South Africa defeat Slovenia and Spain not take full points against Paraguay then the pressure could really be on the Europeans.

Slovenia v Paraguay

Paraguay will be looking to wrap up first or second spot on the table in this match and should come away with the points in full.

Zlatko Zahovic
(Slovenia)Benni McCarthy
(South Africa)

GROUP C

Brazil v Turkey

Brazil v Turkey: Turkey's only other finals appearance was in 1954 and in that tournament they lost their opening game 1-4. If there is a chance of getting Brazil it is early in the tournament and there is a chance that this could end in a draw. If that were the case it would be seen as a bonus by Turkey whilst it would put some pressure on Brazil.

China v Costa Rica: China's debut in the World Cup. In their corresponding debut in 1990 Costa Rica upset Scotland 1-0, could the shoe be on the other foot this time around?

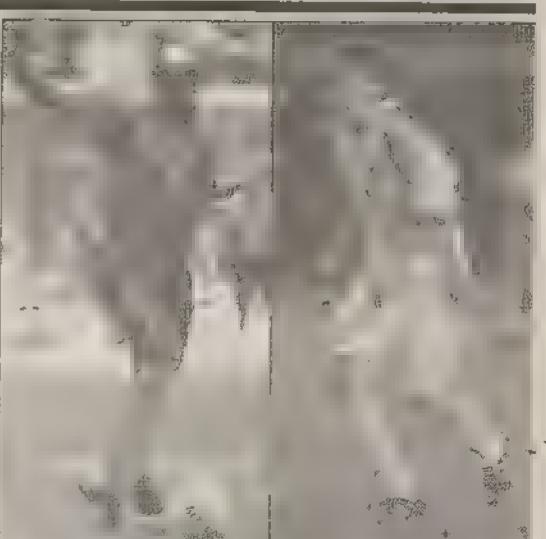
Brazil v China: Crunch time for the Chinese. It is the past meeting the possible final. It may be seen by the Brazilians as a chance to build up their goals for total. However the unknown nature of the Chinese team may be difficult for the Brazilians to overcome with too high a score tally.

Costa Rica v Turkey: This could be the play off for second place. Both sides will be banking on full

points from this game so as to push for second spot. Turkey would be favourites to take out this game and therefore take out the runners up position.

Costa Rica v Brazil: The only teams to have played each other before in World Cup games in this group, and that match ended in a 1-0 win to Brazil but it was a tough game. Costa Rica went through to the second round thanks to its wins in the other matches in the group. If they are good enough to get a better result this time against the Brazilians then the central American side would have a strong chance of making round 2 again.

Turkey v China: The possibility is China will still be looking for their first win of the tournament and they won't want to go home empty handed. For this reason alone this could be Turkey's real danger match because a slip up here will probably be terminal.

Paulo Wanchope
(Costa Rica)Fan Zhili
(China)

GROUP D

South Korea v Poland

South Korea v Poland: If South Korea are going to make it into the next round for the first time they have to win this match. They are at home and emotionally will be on a huge high so they could cause an upset. However they have started slowly in all previous competitions (including a 0-9 loss in their very first finals match) so Poland might justifiably feel confident of gaining the maximum three points.

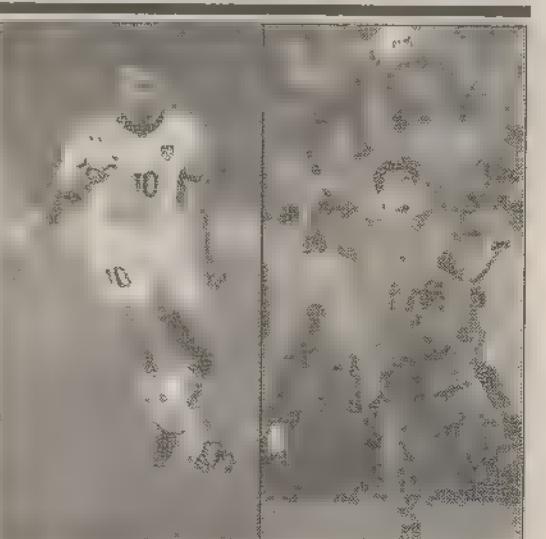
USA v Portugal: Portugal will be looking for a confidence boosting start and should be too strong for the US. They have won their opening fixtures on the two other occasions they have appeared in the finals. The only time the US have done so is in 1930.

South Korea v USA: Whoever wins this match will be in a great position to snatch second spot. With the local support Korea could win their first game of the Finals.

Poland v Portugal: This should be the play off for the very vital top position. These European outfits know each other well so it should be a tight tussle. Portugal would be slight favourites, Poland may even be satisfied with a draw.

Portugal v South Korea: Portugal v Korea evokes images of 1966 and the famous 5-3 win over Korea, although it was North Korea. Could it be that the home side pulls off another upset, perhaps not of the 1966 magnitude, but upset nonetheless?

Poland v USA: Poland are favourites to dismiss the American challenge. This could really be the shootout for second spot should the form go as expected.

Claudio Reyna
(USA)Do Hoon Kim
(Korea Republic)

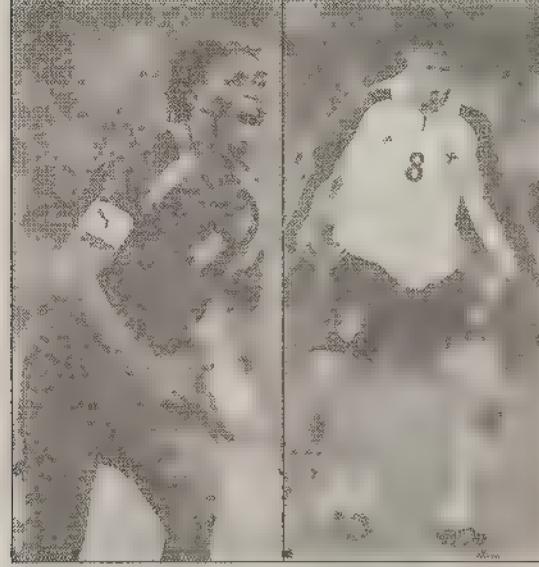


KOREA/JAPAN

WORLD CUP PREVIEWS



KOREA/JAPAN

Rigobert Song
(Cameroon)Michael Ballack
(Germany)

GROUP E

Germany v Saudi Arabia: Saudi Arabia have failed to win either of their opening games in the finals. Germany on the other hand (as Germany or West Germany) have only lost one of their opening games and they have appeared in 14 finals including every one of them since 1954. The good news for Saudi Arabia is their one loss was against unknown Algeria in 1982 so perhaps they can take confidence in that.

Ireland v Cameroon: Perhaps the biggest spectacle of this match will be off the park. Both supporter sets are colourful and noisy so the ground should be full of fun. On the pitch the Irish have never lost any of their opening matches, and that includes matches against Czechoslovakia, England and Italy. Certainly they gain a roll on from a first up match so this is probably the most vital of the three games. Cameroon of course have their famous victory over Argentina in 1990 but since have only got one point from opening matches against Sweden and Austria, unlike off the pitch on it the view may not be pretty.

Germany v Ireland: This looks to be the match of the group stage for this set of teams. The last time these sides met in the finals was in 1958 and the game ended in a 2-2 stalemate after being 1-1 at half time. There is a strong possibility this match could end up having a very similar scoreline.

Cameroun v Saudi Arabia: Both sides will see this as a must win match for further qualification. Saudi Arabia defeated Morocco in a very similar style of match in 1994 but could only manage a draw against South Africa in 1998. Cameroon definitely have the experience factor in terms of crunch matches and with their recent African Nations victory will go in as favourites in this match.

Cameroon v Germany: Cameroon will be hoping the pressure is really on Germany because if the Germans try and sit back and counter it could well play into the hands of the African nation. Cameroon are certainly not afraid of the so called big named European countries and this is probably the hardest match to choose a winner for in this group.

Saudi Arabia v Ireland: Ireland will certainly be banking on the three points from this game to guarantee further progress. The Irish have never taken on a team from Asia in the finals before (in fact this will only be the fifth team outside of Europe they have faced on the field of a World Cup Finals series) and that may well go against them. The Saudis surprised Belgium, winning 1-0, in a similar match in USA 1994 so the Irish can not take their opponents for granted.

Robbie Keane
(Ireland)Mohammad Al-Deayea
(Saudi Arabia)David Beckham
(England)Juan Sebastian Veron
(Argentina)

GROUP F

England v Sweden: Sweden makes their return to the finals after missing 1998. In 1994 the side almost went all the way and the team have two managers in charge. There are also two Swedes in the English coaching staff, namely Eriksson and Grips. England are traditionally fairly slow starters but will need to get a good start in this group. Sweden too will be looking to put the pressure on early and this could turn out to be a hard fought draw. Sweden and England have never played against each other in the finals.

Argentina v Nigeria: These two sides clashed in USA 1994 and the 2-1 lead the South Americans took into half time was the final score. That was the middle game of the group stage but this time they clash in the first round. Every Argentine supporter remembers the opening game of 1990 against African side Cameroon so there should be no underestimation of Nigeria. On paper this looks to be no contest as Argentina should win well and should they stumble at this stage they could really struggle so there will be no let up on the African team.

Sweden v Nigeria: Should England or Argentina slip up along the way this clash should determine who goes through to stage two. Sweden has a better chance of being in a positive mind frame after the first match. Nigeria's last match in the finals was against Nordic opposition in Denmark and they were thumped 1-4 so they will be hoping for revenge on their

neighbours instead.

England v Argentina: Quite possibly the game of all the group matches. The history between the two nations is well documented and there will be no quarter given in 2002 either.

Four times they have met in the finals with England having

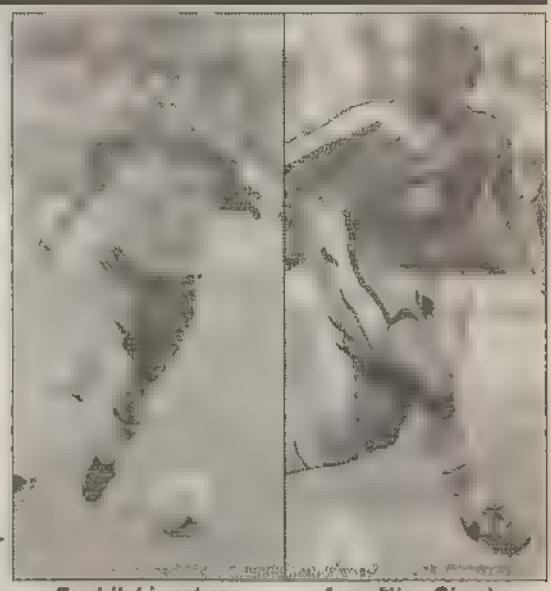
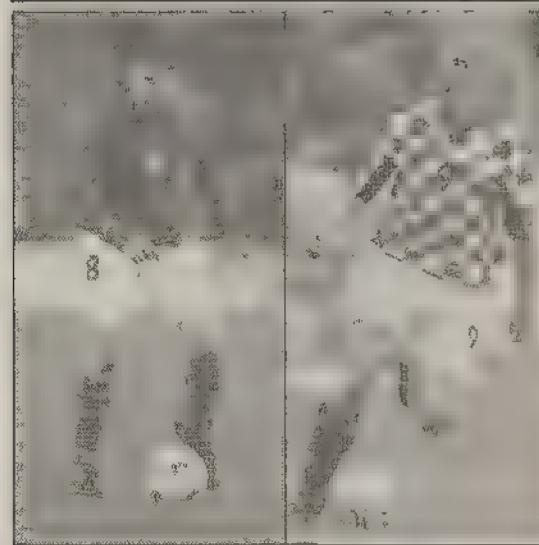
scored seven goals and Argentina five. The English have won

twice, the Argentine's once and a 2-2 draw in the last match.

Argentina will again go in as slight favourites.

Sweden v Argentina: By this stage the only thing Argentina might be playing for is avoiding second place. However this is not what is used as the second placed team in this group will probably play France in the group of 16. Sweden will be hoping they are the ones still shooting for top spot. Sweden has only played Argentina once in the finals and that was way back in 1934. In fact this was Sweden's first ever game in the finals and they won it 3-2.

Nigeria v England: These teams have never met in the finals before but this could almost be an elimination game in itself. England will definitely be relying on these three points to qualify. Nigeria will be hoping to squeeze past the English and combine that with a draw in the Sweden Argentina game, thereby making it through to the semis. They may not be the best team out of Africa anymore but they are still very dangerous. For the first time in this group England should go into this game as clear favourites.

Fredrik Ljungberg
(Sweden)Augustine Okocha
(Nigeria)Christian Vieri
(Italy)Mario Stanić
(Croatia)

GROUP G

Brazil v Turkey: Turkey's only other finals appearance was in 1954 and in that tournament they lost their opening game 1-4. If there is a chance of getting Brazil it is early in the tournament and there is a chance that this could end in a draw. If that were the case, it would be seen as a bonus by Turkey whilst it would put some pressure on Brazil.

China v Costa Rica: China's debut in the World Cup. In their corresponding debut in 1990 Costa Rica upset Scotland 1-0, could the shoe be on the other foot this time around?

Brazil v China: Crunch time for the Chinese. It is the past meeting the possible future. It may be seen by the Brazilians as a chance to build up their goals for total. However the unknown nature of the Chinese team may be difficult for the Brazilians to overcome with too high a score tally.

Costa Rica v Turkey: This could be the play off for second place. Both sides will be banking on full

points from this game so as to push for second spot. Turkey would be favourites to take out this game and therefore take out the runners up position.

Costa Rica v Brazil: The only teams to have played each other before in World Cup games in this group, and that match ended in a 1-0 win to Brazil but it was a tough game. Costa Rica went through to the second round thanks to its wins in the other matches in the group. If they are good enough to get a better result this time against the Brazilians then the central American side would have a strong chance of making round 2 again.

Turkey v China: The possibility is China will still be looking for their first win of the tournament and they won't want to go home empty handed. For this reason alone this could be Turkey's real danger match because a slip up here will probably be terminal.

Augustin Delgado
(Ecuador)Cuauhtemoc Blanco
(Mexico)Viktor Onopko
(Russia)Marc Wilmots
(Belgium)

GROUP H

Japan v Belgium: Japan come into this match looking to start strongly. On current form Belgium is the weaker of the two European sides in this group and the Japanese could manage a draw. However the locals know if they do manage to beat Belgium then they could be set for a historic visit to the second round, even at this early stage. They would also know the last time Belgium played in the finals they drew 1-1 with South Korea!

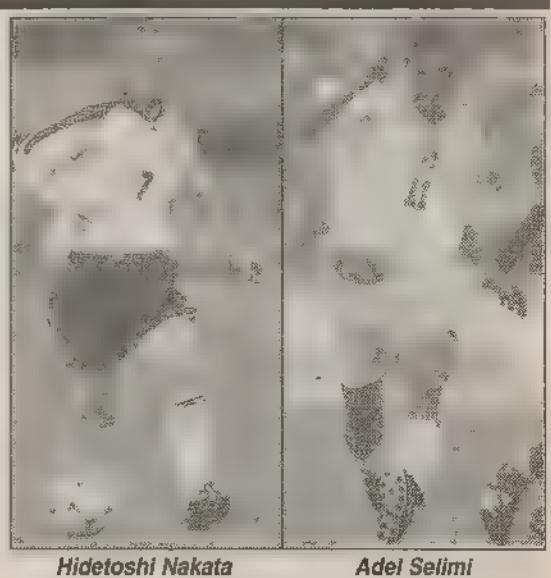
Russia v Tunisia: Despite Russia not having qualified last time around and Tunisia doing so the former Soviet nation are big favourites in this game. Tunisia have never defeated European competition in the finals although they have drawn it up against West Germany (1978) and Romania (1998). Russia's last match in the finals was a 6-1 thrashing of Cameroon (1994).

Japan v Russia: Japan face their biggest threat against the Russians. They may well be flooding their defence and play for a draw to maximise their opportunities of playing in the next phase.

Tunisia v Belgium: Belgium should be too strong for Tunisia. The sides have never met in the finals before. Since 1982 the Belgian team have not lost the middle game of the group stage and only once have they drawn the match – that game being against Mexico in the last World Cup finals.

Tunisia v Japan: This would have to be Japan's best chance of getting a point out of the finals. Last World Cup this equivalent match was against Jamaica but despite scoring a goal they still lost the match. Tunisia should be even more tough than the team from the West Indies.

Belgium v Russia: There is a history between these two nations in the finals, albeit the Russians playing as the USSR. The sides played three times between 1970 and 1986, the USSR winning 4-1 and 1-0 in 1970 and 1982 respectively before the Belgian side took their revenge with a 4-3 win after extra time in round two of the 1986 tournament. This should be a play off for top spot thereby avoiding a probable match against Brazil in the next round.

Hidetoshi Nakata
(Japan)Adel Selimi
(Tunisia)



WORLD CUP SQUADS



GROUP A



FRANCE

Goalkeepers: Fabien Barthez (Manchester United), Ulrich Ramé (Bordeaux), Gregory Coupet (Lyon)

Defenders: Vincent Candela (Roma), Marcel Desailly (Chelsea), Frank Leboeuf (Marseille), Lilian Thuram (Juventus), Mikael Silvestre (Manchester United), Bixente Lizarazu (Bayern Munich), Willy Sagnol (Bayern Munich), Philippe Christanval (Barcelona)

Midfielders: Patrick Vieira (Arsenal), Emmanuel Petit (Chelsea), Youri Djorkaeff (Bolton), Alain Boghossian (Parma), Johan Micoud (Parma), Claude Makelele (Real Madrid), Zinedine Zidane (Real Madrid)

Strikers: Christophe Dugarry (Bordeaux), Sylvain Wiltord (Arsenal), David Trezeguet (Juventus), Thierry Henry (Arsenal), Djibril Cissé (Auxerre)



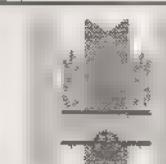
DENMARK

Goalkeepers: Thomas Sorensen (Sunderland), Peter Kjaer (Aberdeen), Jesper Christiansen (Vejle)

Defenders: Kasper Bogelund (PSV Eindhoven), Jan Heintz (PSV Eindhoven), Thomas Helveg (AC Milan), Rene Hennisen (Panathinaikos), Niclas Jensen (Manchester City), Martin Laursen (AC Milan), Steven Lustu (Lyon)

Midfielders: Thomas Gravesen (Everton), Claus Jensen (Charlton Athletic), Brian Steen Nielsen (Malmö FF), Christian Poulsen (FC Copenhagen), Stig Tofting (Bolton Wanderers)

Forwards: Jesper Gronkjaer (Chelsea), Martin Jorgensen (Udinese), Peter Lovenkrands (Rangers), Peter Madsen (Brondby), Jan Michaelsen (Panathinaikos), Dennis Rommedahl (PSV Eindhoven), Ebbe Sand (Schalke 04), Jon Dahl Tomasson (Feyenoord)



URUGUAY

Goalkeepers: Fabian Carini (Juventus), Gustavo Munua (Nacional), Federico Eguiguren (Penarol)

Defenders: Paolo Montero (Juventus), Gonzalo Sorondo (Inter Milan), Joe Bizera (Penarol), Gustavo Mendez (Nacional), Alejandro Lembo (Nacional), Dario Rodriguez (Penarol)

Midfielders: Pablo Garcia (Venezia), Gonzalo De los Santos (Valencia), Gianni Guidou (AS Roma), Fabian O'Neill (Perugia), Marcelo Romero (Malaga), Nicolas Olvera (Sevilla)

Forwards: Alvaro Recoba (Inter Milan), Gustavo Varela (Nacional), Dario Silva (Malaga), Federico Magallanes (Venezia), Richard Morales (Nacional), Diego Forlan (Manchester United), Sebastian Abreu (Cruz Azul), Mario Regueiro (Racing Santander)



SENEGAL

Goalkeepers: Kalidou Cisseko (Jeanne d'Arc), Oumar Diallo (Olympique Khouribga), Tony Sylva (Monaco)

Defenders: Habib Beye (Strasbourg), Aliou Cisse (Montpellier), Ferdinand Coly (Lens), Oumar Daf (Sochaux), Lamine Diatta (Rennes), Pape Malick Diop (Lorient), Alassane Ndour (St Etienne)

Midfielders: Salif Diao (Sedan), Pape Bouba Diop (Lens), Khalilou Fadiga, Andy Faye (both Auxerre), Makhtar Ndiaye (Rennes), Moussa Ndiaye (Sedan), Sylvain Ndiaye (Lille), Pape Sarr (Lens)

Strikers: Henri Camara (Sedan), Souleymane Camara (Monaco), El Hadji Diouf (Lens), Pape Thieu (Strasbourg), Amara Traore (Gueugnon)

GROUP B



PARAGUAY

Goalkeepers: Jose Luis Chilavert (Strasbourg); Ricardo Tavarelli, (Olimpia), Justo Villar, (Liberdad).

Defenders: Francisco Arce (Palmeiras), Celso Ayala, (River Plate) Carlos Gamarra, (AEK Athens), Dennis Carliza (Santos Laguna) Pedro Sarabia (River Plate), Daniel Sanabria, (Liberdad) Julio Caceres, Olimpia (Paraguay)

Midfielders: Roberto Acuna, (Real Zaragoza) Estanislao Struway (Liberdad) Carlos Paredes, (Porto) Gustavo Moringo (Liberdad) Diego Gavilan, (Los Ticos) Juan Carlos Franco (Olimpia) Carlos Bonet, (Liberdad) Guido Alvarenga (Leon)

Forwards: Jose Cardozo (Toluca), Roque Santacruz, (Bayern Munich) Nelson Cuevas (River Plate) Richard Baez, (Olimpia) Jorge Campos (U. Católica)



SLOVENIA

Goalkeepers: Mladen Dabanic (Lokeren), Dejan Nemeč (Bruges), Marko Simeunovic (Maribor Pivovarna Lasko)

Defenders: Spasoje Bulajic (Cologne), Marinko Galic (Sportline Koper), Aleksander Knavs (Kaiserslautern), Zeljko Milinovic (JEF United), Goran Sankovic (Slavia Prague), Muaner Vugdalic (Maribor Pivovarna Lasko)

Midfielders: Milenko Acimovic (Tottenham), Alex Ceh (Gak), Nastja Ceh (Bruges), Sasa Gajser (Gent), Amir Kanc (Maribor Pivovarna Lasko), Dzoni Novak (Unterhaching), Miran Pavlin (Porto), Zoran Pavlovic (FK Austria Memphis), Rajko Tavcar (Nuremberg), Zlatko Zahovic (Benfica)

Forwards: Sebastian Cimerotic (Lecce), Milan Osteric (Hapoel Tel Aviv), Mladen Rudonja (Portsmouth), Senad Tiganj (Olympia)



SOUTH AFRICA

Goalkeepers: Andre Arendse (Santos), Calvin Marlin (Ajax Cape Town), Hans Vork (Heerenveen)

Defenders: Albert Mokoena (Lokomotiv Moscow), Bradley Camell (VfB Stuttgart), Pierre Issa (Watford), Aaron Mokoena (Germinal Beerschot), Thabang Molefe (Jomo Cosmos), Cyril Nzama (Kazier Chiefs), Lucas Radebe (Leeds Utd)

Midfielders: Delfon Buckley (VfL Bochum), Quinton Fortune (Manchester Utd), Thabo Mngomeni (Orlando Pirates), Bennett Mnguni (Lokomotiv Moscow), Teboho Mokoena (St Galen), MacDonald Mukansu (Lokomotiv Sofia), Steven Pienaar (Ajax Amsterdam), Jabu Pule (Chiefs), McBeth Sibaya (Cosmos), Sibusiso Zuma (FC Copenhagen)

Strikers: Benni McCarthy (Porto), Siyabonga Nomwete (Udinese), George Kourmantarakis (Basle)



SPAIN

Goalkeepers: Santiago Canizares (Valencia), Iker Casillas (Real Madrid), Ricardo Lopez (Valencia)

Defenders: Carles Puyol (Barcelona), Juanfran Garcia (Celta Vigo), Enrique Romero (Deportivo La Coruna), Carles Puyol (Barcelona), Juan Carlos Valeron (Deportivo La Coruna), Xavi Hernandez (Barcelona)

Midfielders: David Albelda (Valencia), Ruben Baraja (Valencia), Ivan Helguera (Real Madrid), Luis Enrique Martinez (Barcelona), Gaizka Mendieta (Lazio/Ita), Sergio Gonzalez (Deportivo La Coruna), Juan Carlos Valeron (Deportivo La Coruna), Xavi Hernandez (Barcelona)

Strikers: Francisco De Pedro (Real Sociedad), Alberto Luque (Real Mallorca), Fernando Morientes (Real Madrid), Raul Gonzalez (Real Madrid), Joaquin Sanchez (Real Betis), Diego Tristán (Deportivo La Coruna)

GROUP C



BRAZIL

Goalkeepers: Rogerio Ceni (Sao Paulo), Marcos (Palmeiras), Dida (Corinthians)

Defenders: Cafu (AS Roma), Belletti (Sao Paulo), Junior (Parma), Roberto Carlos (Real Madrid), Lucio (Bayer Leverkusen), Roque Junior (AC Milan), Anderson Polga (Gremio), Edmílson (Olympique Lyon)

Midfielders: Gilberto Silva (Atletico Mineiro), Emerson Ferreira (AS Roma), Juninho Paulista (Flamengo), Kaka (Sao Paulo), Kleberson (Atletico Paranaense), Vampeta (Corinthians), Ronaldinho Gaúcho (Paris St Germain)

Forwards: Ronaldo (Inter Milan), Luizao (Gremio), Edilson (Cruzeiro), Demison (Real Betis), Rivaldo (Barcelona)



CHINA

Goalkeepers: Jiang Jin (Tianjin Taida), An Qi (Dalian Shide), Ou Chuliang (Yunnan Hongta)

Defenders: Fan Zhiyi (Dundee, Scotland), Li Weifeng (Shenzhen Ping'an), Sun Jihai (Manchester City), Wu Chenching (Shanghai Shenhua), Yang Pu (Beijing Guoan), Xu Yunlong (Beijing Guoan), Zhang Enhua (Dalian Shide), Du Wei (Shanghai Shenhua), Cao Yao (Shandong Luneng)

Midfielders: Li Tie (Liaoning Bodao), Zhao Junzhe (Liaoning Bodao), Li Xiaopeng (Shandong Luneng), Qu Bo (Qingdao Beer), Ma Mingyu (Sichuan Dahe), Shao Jiayi (Beijing Guo'an), Qi Hong (Shanghai Zhongyuan), Yu Genwei (Tianjin Taida)

Forwards: Hao Haidong (Dalian Shide), Yang Chen (Eintracht Frankfurt), Su Maozhen (Shandong Luneng)



COSTA RICA

Goalkeepers: Erick Lonnis (Saprissa), Alvaro Mesen (Alajuela), Lester Morgan (Heredia)

Defenders: Carlos Castro (Alajuela), Harold Wallace (Alajuela), Mauricio Wright (Heredia), Juan Jose Rodriguez (San Carlos), Daniel Vallejo (Heredia), Reynaldo Parks (Saprissa), Jervis Drummond (Saprissa), Gilberto Martinez (Brescia), Luis Marin (Alajuela)

Midfielders: Wilmer Lopez (Alajuela), Mauncio Solis (Alajuela), Walter Centeno (Saprissa), Rodrigo Cordero (Heredia), Rolando Fonseca (Alajuela)

Attackers: William Sunsing (Heredia), Ronald Gomez (Ofi-Crete), Winston Parks (Udinese), Paulo Cesar Wanchope (Manchester City), Steven Bryce (Alajuela), Hernan Medford (Saprissa)



TURKEY

Goalkeepers: Rustu Reber (Fenerbahce), Omer Catlik (Gaziantepspor), Zafer Ozgultekin (Ankaragucu), Melih Aktas (Trabzonspor)

Defenders: Bulent Korkmaz (Galatasaray), Emre Asik (Galatasaray), Fatih Akyel (Fenerbahce), Umit Ozat (Fenerbahce), Ismail Gulgun (Gencelbirlik), Alpay Ozalcan (Aston Villa)

Midfielders: Ergun Penbe (Galatasaray), Abdullah Ercan (Fenerbahce), Tayfur Havutcu (Besiktas), Cihan Haspoiat (Kocaelispor), Tugay Kerimoglu (Blackburn Rovers), Hakan Unsal (Blackburn Rovers), Emre Belozoglu (Inter Milan), Okan Buruk (Inter Milan), Umut Daval (AC Milan), Tayfun Korkut (Real Sociedad), Yildiz Basturk (Bayer Leverkusen), Mustafa Izzet (Leicester City)

Forwards: Hakan Sukur (Parma), Arif Erdem (Galatasaray), Hasan Sas (Galatasaray), Serhat Akon (Fenerbahce), İlhan Mansı (Besiktas), Nihat Kahveci (Real Sociedad)

GROUP D



POLAND

Goalkeeper: Jerzy Dudek (Liverpool), Radoslaw Majdan (Goztepe), Adam Matysik (RKS Radomsko)

Defenders: Michal Zwiakow (Mouscron), Marek Kozminski (Arcoria), Tomasz Waldoch (Schalke 04), Jacek Zielinski (Legia Warsaw), Jacek Bak (Lens), Tomasz Hajto (Schalke 04), Tomasz Klos (Kaiserslautern), Arkadiusz Glowacki (Wisla Cracow)

Midfielders: Tomasz Rzasa (Feyenoord), Jacek Krzynowek (Nuremberg), Radoslaw Kaluzny (Cottbus), Arkadiusz Bak (Widzew Lodz), Piotr Swierczewski (Marseille), Maciej Murawski (Legia Warsaw), Paweł Sibil (Odra Wodzislaw)

Strikers: Emmanuel Olisadebe (Panathinaikos), Paweł Kryszakowicz (Frankfurt), Maciej Zurawski (Wisla Cracow), Marcin Zwiakow (Mouscron), Cezary Kucharski (Legia Warsaw)



PORTUGAL

Goalkeepers: Nelson Pereira (Sporting Lisbon), Ricardo Pereira (Boavista Porto), Vitor Baia (FC Porto)

Defenders: Abel Xavier (Liverpool), Roberto Seviro "Beto" (Sporting Lisbon), Marco Caniera (Benfica), Fernando Couto (Lazio), Nuno Frechaut (Boavista Porto), Jorge Andrade (FC Porto), Jorge Costa (Charlton), Rui Jorge Oliveira (Sporting Portugal)

Midfielders: Nuno Rocha "Capucho" (FC Porto), Luis Figo (Real Madrid), Paulo Bento (Sporting Portugal), Paulo Sousa (Espanyol), Pedro Barbosa (Sporting Lisbon), Armando Teixeira "Petit" (Boavista), Rui Costa (Milan), Sergio Conceicao (Inter Milan), Hugo Viana (Sporting Lisbon)

Forwards: Joao Pinto (Sporting Lisbon), Nuno Ribeiro "Gomes" (Fiorentina), Pedro Resendes "Pauela" (Bordeaux)



KOREA REPUBLIC

Goalkeepers: Choi Eun-Sung (Taegon Citizen), Kim Byung-Ji (Pohang Steelers), Lee Woon-Jae (Suwon Blue Wings)

Defenders: Choi Jin-Chul (Chonbuk Hyundai), Hong Myung-Bo (Pohang Steelers), Kim Tae-Young (Chunnam Dragons), Lee Min-Sung (Pusan Icons), Hyun Young-Min (Ulsan Hyundai)

Midfielders: Ahn Jung-Hwan (AC Perugia), Choi Sung-Yong (Suwon Blue Wings), Kim Nam-Jil (Chunnam Dragons), Lee Eui-Yong (Bucheon SK), Lee Young-Pyo (Anyang), Park Ji-Sung (Kyoto Purple Sanga), Song Chong-Cug (Pusan Icons), Yoo Sang-Chul (Kashiwa Reysol), Yoon Jong-Hwan (Cerezo Osaka)

Forwards: Cha Doo-Ri (Korea University), Choi Yong-Soo (IEF United Ichihara), Choi Tae-Uk (Anyang LG), Hwang Sun-Hong (Kashiwa Reysol), Lee Chun-Soo (Ulsan Hyundai), Seol Ki-Hyeon



USA

Goalkeepers: Brad Friedel (Blackburn Rovers), Kasey Keller (Tottenham Hotspur), Tony Meola (Kansas City Wizards)

Defenders: Jeff Agoos (San Jose Earthquakes), Greg Berhalter (Crystal Palace), Frankie Hejduk (Bayer Leverkusen), Carlos Llamas (New England Revolution), Pablo Mastroeni (Colorado Rapids), Eddie Pope (United), David Regis (F.C. Metz), Tony Sanneh (Nuremberg)

Midfielders: Chris Armas (Chicago Fire), DaMarcus Beasley (Chicago Fire), Landon Donovan (San Jose Earthquakes), Cobi Jones (Los Angeles Galaxy), Eddie Lewis (Fulham), John O'Brien (Ajax, Netherlands), Claudio Reyna (Sunderland), Earnie Stewart (NAC Breda)

Forwards: Clint Mathis (New York/New Jersey MetroStars), Brian McBride (Columbus Crew), Joe Max Moore (Everton), Josh Wolff (Chicago Fire)



2002
FIFA WORLD CUP
KOREA/JAPAN

JAPAN / SOUTH KOREA WORLD CUP 2002

COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAM



2002
FIFA WORLD CUP
KOREA/JAPAN

GROUP A - TIMEABLE

DATE	TEAM	TEAM
May 31	France	0 v Senegal 1
Jun 01	Uruguay	1 v Denmark 2
Jun 06	France	1 v Uruguay 1
Jun 06	Denmark	1 v Senegal 1
Jun 11	Denmark	1 v France 1
Jun 11	Senegal	1 v Uruguay 1

GROUP B - TIMEABLE

DATE	TEAM	TEAM
Jun 02	Paraguay	2 v Sth Africa 2
Jun 02	Spain	3 v Slovenia 1
Jun 07	Spain	1 v Paraguay 1
Jun 08	Sth Africa	1 v Slovenia 1
Jun 12	Sth Africa	1 v Spain 1
Jun 11	Slovenia	1 v Paraguay 1

GROUP C - TIMEABLE

DATE	TEAM	TEAM
Jun 03	Brazil	1 v Turkey 1
Jun 04	China	1 v Costa Rica 1
Jun 08	Brazil	1 v China 1
Jun 08	Costa Rica	1 v Turkey 1
Jun 12	Costa Rica	1 v Brazil 1
Jun 11	Turkey	1 v China 1

GROUP D - TIMEABLE

DATE	TEAM	TEAM
Jun 04	Sth Korea	1 v Poland 1
Jun 05	USA	1 v Portugal 1
Jun 10	Sth Korea	1 v USA 1
Jun 10	Portugal	1 v Poland 1
Jun 14	Portugal	1 v Sth Korea 1
Jun 14	Poland	1 v USA 1

GROUP E - TIMEABLE

DATE	TEAM	TEAM
Jun 01	Ireland	1 v Cameroon 1
Jun 01	Germany	8 v S Arabia 0
Jun 05	Germany	1 v Ireland 1
Jun 06	Cameroon	1 v S Arabia 1
Jun 11	Cameroon	1 v Germany 1
Jun 11	S Arabia	1 v Ireland 1

GROUP F - TIMEABLE

DATE	TEAM	TEAM
Jun 02	England	1 v Sweden 1
Jun 02	Argentina	1 v Nigeria 0
Jun 07	Sweden	1 v Nigeria 1
Jun 07	Argentina	1 v England 1
Jun 12	Sweden	1 v Argentina 1
Jun 12	Nigeria	1 v England 1

GROUP G - TIMEABLE

DATE	TEAM	TEAM
Jun 03	Croatia	1 v Mexico 1
Jun 03	Italy	1 v Ecuador 1
Jun 08	Italy	1 v Croatia 1
Jun 09	Mexico	1 v Ecuador 1
Jun 13	Mexico	1 v Italy 1
Jun 13	Ecuador	1 v Croatia 1

GROUP H - TIMEABLE

DATE	TEAM	TEAM
Jun 04	Japan	1 v Belgium 1
Jun 05	Russia	1 v Tunisia 1
Jun 09	Japan	1 v Russia 1
Jun 10	Tunisia	1 v Belgium 1
Jun 14	Tunisia	1 v Japan 1
Jun 14	Belgium	1 v Russia 1

PLACINGS - A

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4						

PLACINGS - B

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
1						
2						
3						
4						

PLACINGS - C

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PLACINGS - D

	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
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PLACINGS - E

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PLACINGS - F

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	W	D	L	F	A	PTS

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2002
FIFA WORLD CUP
KOREA JAPAN

JAPAN / SOUTH KOREA WORLD CUP 2002

COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAM



2002
FIFA WORLD CUP
KOREA JAPAN

THE LAST 16

		SCORE	
SR1	1E	v	2B
SR2	1A	v	2F
SR3	1F	v	2A
SR4	1B	v	2E
SR5	1G	v	2D
SR6	1C	v	2H
SR7	1H	v	2C
SR8	1D	v	2G

THIRD PLACED PLAY-OFF

LSF1	v	LSF2
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QUARTER-FINALS

		SCORE	
QF1	SR2	v	SR6
QF2	SR1	v	SR5
QF3	SR4	v	SR8
QF4	SR3	v	SR7

TEAM:

TEAM:

THE FINAL

Yokohama

Subs:

Subs:

SEMI-FINALS

		SCORE	
SF1	QF2	v	QF3
SF2	QF1	v	QF4

WORLD CUP WINNER

Argentina	\$4.75	Paraguay	\$101.00
France	\$4.75	Denmark	\$101.00
Italy	\$5.50	Poland	\$101.00
Brazil	\$6.50	Turkey	\$101.00
Spain	\$7.50	Belgium	\$126.00
England	\$11.00	Korea	\$126.00
Germany	\$17.00	Ecuador	\$201.00
Portugal	\$17.00	Mexico	\$251.00
Cameroun	\$34.00	Senegal	\$251.00
Republic of Ireland	\$51.00	South Africa	\$501.00
Sweden	\$81.00	USA	\$501.00
Nigeria	\$81.00	Slovenia	\$501.00
Uruguay	\$81.00	Costa Rica	\$501.00
Croatia	\$81.00	Tunisia	\$751.00
Japan	\$81.00	China	\$751.30
Russia	\$101.00	Saudi Arabia	\$751.00

RESULT

Argentina	\$1.45
Draw	\$3.75
Nigeria	\$6.50

Croatia	\$1.95
Draw	\$3.20
Mexico	\$3.55

RESULT

Paraguay	\$1.70
Draw	\$3.35
South Africa	\$4.50

Brazil	\$1.57
Draw	\$3.55
Turkey	\$4.25

RESULT

England	\$1.75
Draw	\$3.35
Sweden	\$4.20

Italy	\$1.40
Draw	\$3.70
Ecuador	\$4.15

RESULT

Spain	\$1.42
Draw	\$3.73
Slovenia	\$5.15

China	\$3.25
Draw	\$5.20
Costa Rica	\$7.00

2002 FIFA WORLD CUP KOREA-JAPAN
Little Memories 1993

Special Edition

WORLD CUP SQUADS

CELESTE

KOREA, JAPAN

KOREA, JAPAN

GROUP



CAMEROON

Goalkeepers: Alioum Boukar (Samsunspor), Jacques Songo'o (Metz), Idriss Carlos Kameni (Juventus)

Defenders: Rigobert Song (FC Cologne), Raymond Kala Ngongo (Extremadura), Lucien Mettomo (Manchester City), Pierre Wome Nlend (Bologna), Pierre Njaka Beaka (Portsmouth)

Midfielders: Bill Tchato (Montpellier), Nicolas Almoudji (Caykur Rizespor), Eric Djemba Djemba (Nantes), Marc-Vivien Foe (Lyon), Laurent Etame Mayer (Arsenal), Joseph Cyrille Ndo (Al Khalees), Daniel Ngom Kome (Numancia), Geremy Njatap Fotso (Real Madrid), Salomon Olembe (Marseille), Joel Epalle (Panathai)

Strikers: Samuel Eto'o Fils (Real Mallorca), Patrick Mboma (Parma; on loan to Sunderland), Pius Ndiefi (Sedan), Patrick Siffio (Numancia), Joseph-Desire Job (Metz)

GERMANY

Goalkeepers: Jorg Butt (Bayer Leverkusen), Oliver Kahn (Bayern Munich), Jens Lehmann (Borussia Dortmund)

Defenders: Frank Baumann (Werder Bremen), Sebastian Kehl (Borussia Dortmund), Thomas Linke (Bayern Munich), Christoph Metzelder (Borussia Dortmund), Marko Rehmer (Hertha Berlin), Christian Ziege (Tottenham/Eng)

Midfielders: Michael Ballack (Bayer Leverkusen), Jorg Bohne (Schalke), Torsten Frings (Werder Bremen), Dietmar Hamann (Liverpool/Eng), Jens Jeremies (Bayern Munich), Carsten Ramelow (Bayer Leverkusen), Bernd Schneider (Bayer Leverkusen), Lars Ricken (Borussia Dortmund)

Strikers: Gerald Asamoah (Schalke 04), Oliver Bierhoff (Monaco/Fra), Marco Bode (Werder Bremen), Carsten Jancker (Bayern Munich), Miroslav Klose (Kaiserslautern), Oliver Neuville (Bayer Leverkusen)



REPUBLIC IRELAND

REPUBLIC IRELAND

Goalkeepers: Shay Given (Newcastle United), Alan Kelly (Blackburn Rovers) and Dean Kiely (Charlton Athletic)

Defenders: Steve Finnigan (Fulham), Ian Harte (Leeds United), Gary Kelly (Leeds United), Steve Staunton (Aston Villa), Kenny Cunningham (Wimbledon), Richard Dunne (Manchester City), Gary Breen (Coventry City) and Andy O'Brien (Newcastle United)

Midfielders: Mark Kinsella (Charlton Athletic), Matt Holland (Ipswich), Kevin Kilbane (Sunderland), Steven Reid (Wolverhampton Wanderers), Lee Carsley (Everton) and Jason McAteer (Sunderland), Colin Healy (Celtic)

Strikers: Robbie Keane (Leeds United), Damien Duff (Blackburn Rovers), Niall Quinn (Sunderland), Clinton Morrison (Crystal Palace) and David Connolly (Wimbledon)



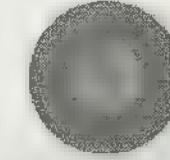
SAUDI ARABIA

Goalkeepers: Mohammad Al-Deayea (Al-Hilal), Mohammad Babakar Al-Khojai (Al-Nasr), Mabrouk Zaid (Al-Ittihad)

Defenders: Abdalah Sulaimane (Al-Hilal), Hussein Abel Ghani Al-Solaimani (Al-Ahli), Mohsen Al-Hareethi (Al-Nasr), Fawzi Al-Shehri (Al-Ahli), Ahmed Al-Dokhi Al-Dossari (Al-Hilal), Redha Taqer Fallatah (Al-Shabab), Mohamed Ashley A-Johan (Al-Ahli), Mansour Al-Thaqafi (Al-Nasr)

Midfielders: Khamis Al-Ouaran Al-Dossari (Al-Ittihad), Abdalah Al-Waked (Al-Shabab), Mohamed Nour Al-Hossawi (Al-Ittihad), Nawaf Al-Temyat (Al-Hilal), Abdo Aziz Al-Khatib (Al-Shabab), Omar Al-Gamedi (Al-Hilal), Mohammad Al-Shalhoub (Al-Hilal)

Forwards: Sami Al-Jaber (Al-Hilal), Al-Hassan Al-Yami (Al-Ittihad), Abdallah Al-Jamaan Al-Dossari (Al-Hilal), Obeid Al-Dossari (Al-Ahli), Ibrahim Suwaidy Al-Shahrani (Al-Ahli)



GROUP



ENGLAND

Goalkeepers: David Seaman (Arsenal), Nigel Martyn (Leeds), David James (West Ham)

Defenders: Rio Ferdinand (Leeds), Sol Campbell (Arsenal), Gareth Southgate (Middlesbrough), Ashley Cole (Arsenal), Wayne Bridge (Southampton), Danny Mills (Leeds), Wes Brown (Manchester United), Martin Keown (Arsenal)

Midfielders: David Beckham (Manchester United, capt), Paul Scholes (Manchester United), Kieron Dyer (Newcastle), Nicky Butt (Manchester United), Owen Hargreaves (Bayern Munich/Ger), Joe Cole (West Ham), Trevor Sinclair (West Ham)

Strikers: Michael Owen (Liverpool), Emile Heskey (Liverpool), Darius Vassell (Aston Villa), Robbie Fowler (Leeds), Teddy Sheringham (Tottenham)



ARGENTINA

Goalkeepers: German Burgos (Atletico Madrid), Pablo Cavallero (Celta), Roberto Bonano (Barcelona).

Defenders: Roberto Ayala (Valencia), Mauricio Pochettino (Paris St Germain), Walter Samuel (AS Roma), Jose Chamot (AC Milan), Diego Placente (Bayer Leverkusen).

Midfielders: Javier Zanetti (Inter Milan), Diego Simeone (Lazio), Juan Sebastian Veron (Manchester United), Claudio Huesca (River Plate), Matias Almeyda (Parma), Pablo Aimar (Valencia), Marcelo Gallardo (Monaco), Juan Pablo Sorin (Cruzeiro).

Strikers: Ariel Ortega (River Plate), Gabriel Batistuta (AS Roma), Kily Gonzalez (Valencia), Claudio Caniggia (Rangers), Hernan Crespo (Lazio), Claudio Lopez (Lazio), Gustavo Lopez (Celta Vigo).



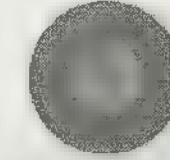
NIGERIA

Goalkeepers: Ike Shorunmu (Lausanne), Austin Ejide (Gobros), Vincent Enyeama (Enyimba)

Defenders: Tarbo West (unattached), Joseph Yobo (Marseille), Isaac Okoronkwo (Shakhtar Donetsk), Christopher Justice (Antwerp), Ifeanyi Udeze (PAOK Salonika), Rabiu Afolabi (Standard Liege), Eric Ejiofor (Maccabi Haifa), Efe Sodje (Crewe), Celestine Babayaro (Chelsea)

Midfielders: Agustine Okocha (Paris Saint Germain), Pius Ikieda (Ajax Amsterdam), James Obiorah (Lokomotiv Moscow), Carba Lawal (Roda), Mutiu Adepoju (Salamanca), Benedict Akwuegbu (Shenyang Fendi), Femi Opabummi (Grasshopper Zurich)

Strikers: Nwankwo Kanu (Arsenal), Julius Aghahowa (Shakhtar Donetsk), Bartholomew Ogbeche (Paris Saint Germain), John Utaka (Al-Saad)



SWEDEN

Goalkeepers: Magnus Hedman (Coventry), Andreas Isaksson (Djurgarden), Magnus Kih-stedt (FC Copenhagen)

Defenders: Patrik Andersson (Barcelona), Tomas Antonelius (FC Copenhagen), Erik Edman (Heerenveen), Andreas Jakobsson (Hansa Rostock), Teddy Lucic (AIK Stockholm), Olof Mellberg (Aston Villa), Johan Mjallby (Celtic), Michael Svensson (Troyes).

Midfielders: Niclas Alexandersson (Everton), Hakan Mild (Wimbedon), Anders Svensson (Southampton), Magnus Svensson (Brondby), Daniel Andersson (Venezia), Mattias Jonsson (Brondby), Tobias Linderoth (Everton)

Strikers: Fredrik Ljungberg (Arsenal), Henrik Larsson (Celtic), Marcus Alback (Heerenveen), Zlatan Ibrahimovic (Ajax), Andreas Andersson (AIK Stockholm)

GROUP



CROATIA

Goalkeepers: Tomislav Butina (Dinamo Zagreb), Stipe Pletikosa (Hajduk Split), Vladimir Vasilj (Zagreb)

Defenders: Robert Jarni (Panathinaikos), Robert Kovac (Bayern Munich), Danijel Saric (Panathinaikos), Anthony Senic (Verona), Dario Simic (Inter Milan), Josip Simunic (Hertha Berlin), Boris Zivkovic (Bayer Leverkusen)

Midfielders: Niko Kovac (Bayern Munich), Robert Prosić (unattached), Milan Rapac (Fenerbahce), Zvonimir Soldo (VfB Stuttgart), Mario Stanić (Chelsea), Stjepan Tomaš (Vicenza), Jurica Vranjes (Bayer Leverkusen), Davor Vugrinec (Lecce)

Strikers: Bosko Balaban (Aston Villa), Alen Boksic (Middlesbrough), Ivica Olic (Zagreb), Davor Šuker (1860 Munich), Goran Vlaović (Panathinaikos)



ECUADOR

Goalkeepers: Jose Cevallos (Barcelona Guayaquil), Jhovani Ibarra (El Nacional), Daniel Viteri (Emelec)

Defenders: Geovany Espinoza (Aucas), Ivan Hurtado (Barcelona Guayaquil), Augusto Porozo (Emelec), Raul Gueron (Deportivo Quito), Marlon Ayovi (Deportivo Quito), Ulises de la Cruz (Hibernian), Luis Gomez (Barcelona Guayaquil)

Midfielders: Edison Mendez (Deportivo Quito), Edwin Tenorio (Barcelona Guayaquil), Alfonso Obregon (Liga de Quito), Cleber Chala (El Nacional), Juan Carlos Burbano (El Nacional), Wellington Sanchez (Emelec), Walter Ayovi (Emelec), Alex Aguinaga (Necaxa)

Strikers: Nicolas Asencio (Barcelona Guayaquil), Carlos Tenorio (Liga de Quito), Ivan Kaviedes (Barcelona Guayaquil), Angel Fernandez (El Nacional), Agustin Delgado (Southampton)



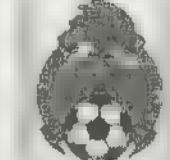
ITALY

Goalkeepers: Gianluigi Buffon (Juventus), Francesco Toldo (Inter Milan), Christian Abbiati (AC Milan)

Defenders: Alessandro Nesta (Lazio), Fabio Cannavaro (Parma), Paolo Maldini (AC Milan), Marco Materazzi (Inter Milan), Mark Juliano (Zanetti), Christian Panucci (AS Roma)

Midfielders: Francesco Coco (Barcelona/Spa), Gianluca Zambrotta (Juventus), Angelo Di Livio (Fiorentina), Luigi Di Biagio (Inter Milan), Cesare Zanetti (Inter Milan), Damiano Tommasi (AS Roma), Gennaro Gattuso (AC Milan), Cristiano Doni (Atalanta)

Strikers: Francesco Totti (AS Roma), Christian Vieri (Inter Milan), Filippo Inzaghi (AC Milan), Alessandro Del Piero (Juventus), Vincenzo Montella (Roma), Marco Delvecchio (AS Roma)



MEXICO

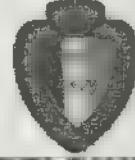
Goalkeepers: Oscar Perez (Cruz Azul), Jorge Campos (UNAM), Oswaldo Sanchez (Guadalajara)

Defenders: Francisco Gabriel de Anda (Pachuca), Melvin Brown (Cruz Azul), Alberto Rodriguez (Pachuca), Manuel Vidrio (Pachuca), Rafael Marquez (Monaco, France), Salvador Carmona (Toluca)

Midfielders: Rafael Garcia (Toluca), Sifredo Mercado (Atlas), Ramon Morales (Guadalajara), Gabriel Caballero (Pachuca), German Villa (America), Alberto Garcia Aspe (Puebla), Gerardo Torrado (Sevilla, Spain), Johan Rodriguez (Santos), Braulio Luna (Necaxa)

Forwards: Francisco Palencia (Barcelona, Spain), Jesus Arellano (Monterrey), Cuauhtemoc Blanco (Valladolid, Spain), Jared Borgetti (Santos), Luis Hernandez (America)

GROUP



BELGIUM

Goalkeepers: Geert De Vlaeyen (Willem II Tilburg), Frederic Herpoel (Ghent), Franky Vandendriessche (Excelsior Mouscron)

Defenders: Glen De Boeck (Anderlecht), Eric Deflandre (Olympique Lyon), Jacky Peeters (Ghent), Daniel Van Buyten (Olympique Marseille), Peter Van der Heyden (Club Bruges), Nico Van Kerckhoven (Schaarbeek 04), Eric Van Meir (Standard Liege)

Midfielders: Danny Boffin (Sint Truiden), Gaetan Englebert (Club Bruges), Bart Goor (Hertha Berlin), Timmy Simons (Club Bruges), Bernd Thijss (Genk), Yves Vanderhaeghe (Anderlecht), Gert Verheyen (Club Bruges), Sven Vermaert (Schalke 04), Johan Walem (Standard Liege), Marc Wilmots (Schalke 04)

Strikers: Mbo Mpenza (Excelsior Mouscron), Branko Strupar (Derby County), Wesley Sonck (Genk)



JAPAN

Goalkeepers: Yoshikatsu Kawaguchi (Portsmouth), Seigo Narazaki (Nagoya), Hitoshi Sogahata (Kashima)

Defenders: Yutaka Akita (Kashima), Ryuzo Morioka (Shimizu), Toshihiro Hattori (Iwata), Tsuneyasu Miyamoto (Gamba Osaka), Naoki Matsuda (Yokohama), Koji Nakata (Kashima)

Midfielders: Hiroaki Monshima (Cerezo Osaka), Hidetoshi Nakata (Parma), Takashi Fukunishi (Iwata), Alessandro Santos (Shimizu), Kazuyuki Toda (Shimizu), Tomokazu Myojin (Kashima), Mituso Ogasawara (Kashima), Junichi Inamoto (Arsenal), Shinji Ono (Feyenoord), Daisuke Ichikawa (Shimizu)

Forwards: Takayuki Suzuki (Kashima), Atsushi Yanagisawa (Kashima), Akinori Nishizawa (Cerezo Osaka), Masashi Nakayama (Iwata)



RUSSIA

Goalkeepers: Ruslan Nigmatullin (Verona), Alexander Filimonov (Elista) and Stanislav Cherchesov (Tiro)

Defenders: Viktor Onopko (Oviedo), Igor Chuganov (Elista), Andrei Solomaten (CSKA Moscow), Yevgeny Dzyar (CSKA Moscow), Dmitry Sennikov (Lokomotiv Moscow), Yury Nikiforov (PSV Eindhoven) and Yury Kovtun (Spartak Moscow)

Midfielders: Valery Karpin (Celta Vigo), Alexander Mostovoi (Celta Vigo), Marat Izmailov (Lokomotiv Moscow), Yegor Titov (Spartak Moscow), Dmitry Khokhlov (Real Sociedad), Sergei Semakov (CSKA Moscow), Igor Semeshov (Torpedo Moscow), Dmitry Alekseev (FC Porto) and Alexei Smerov (Bordeaux)

Strikers: Vladimir Beschastnykh (Spartak Moscow), Dmitry Sychov (Spartak Moscow), Ruslan Pimenov (Lokomotiv Moscow) and Alexander Kerzhakov (Saint Petersburg)



TUNISIA

Goalkeepers: Ali Boumnejel (Bastia), Hassen Bejaoui (CA Bizerte), Ahmed Jaouachi (US Monastir)

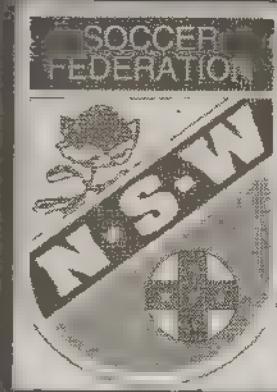
Defenders: Tarek Thabet (Esperance), Radh Jaidi (Esperance), Khaled Badra (Esperance), Jose Clayton (Esperance), Emir Mkadmi (ES Sahel), Mohamed Mchaker (ES Sahel), Hamdi Marzouki (Club Africain), Raouf Bouzaize (Genes), Hatem Trabelsi (Ajax)

Midfielders: Kais Ghodhbane (ES Sahel), Mourad Melki (Esperance), Zoubeir Béja (Besiktas/Tur), Hassen Gabsi (Genes), Imed Mhedbi (Genes), Slim Ben Achour (Martigues), Riad Bouazizi (Borsa)

Strikers: Ali Zitouni (Esperance), Zied Jaziri (ES Sahel), Riadh Jellali (Club Africain), Adel Sellimi (Fribourg)

NEW SOUTH WALES FOOTBALL

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SUPER LEAGUE FEATURE MATCH



Hurstville City

v



Sydney University

By Greg Stock

Atough defensive effort from Sydney University was enough to get them a valuable point from their clash with Hurstville City at St George Stadium on Sunday.

With the rain staying away and the pitch in excellent condition, it was the visitors who made all the early running as they burst out of the gates to take the early lead.

Goalkeeper Steve Tolios took way too long to clear a pass back and was shut down magnificently by Uni midfielder Fred Umlil. Charging down the clearance, Umlil beat Tolios back to the loose ball and deftly lobbed it into the back of the net from the tightest of angles. The goal was an unexpected surprise for the students who then set about the task of defending that lead for the next eighty nine minutes.

With coach Stewart Porter barking instructions at a rate of knots they almost got away with the result as they built their defence around their back four, well marshalled by Adam 'sticks' Daily. But Hurstville City weren't to be denied as the longer the game went, the more caution they threw to the wind. The equaliser came from the boot of Huseyin Bayhan in the 57th minute. Taking advantage of a quick freekick, Bayhan was found by a pin point pass from Yavud Ekici and then beat the advancing Matt Craw with the shot.

But just as they seemed they would go on with the job, the Uni defence held firm. Introducing new signing Jimmy Aschner with just on twenty minutes to go, Hurstville City looked to have the game well within their sights, but with goalkeeper Matt Craw making a number of brilliant saves, the score remained deadlocked. Craw, who has replaced usual number one James Meyer this season, was outstanding and much of the result can be attributed to

his courage.

Another strong performer was captain courageous Rob Smithies. Nursing what looked like a leg injury for the latter stages of the second half, he rolled his sleeves up and tracked right back into the heart of the Uni defence on a number of occasions to lend a helping hand. While the result certainly wasn't what Hurstville were looking for, they did have a number of chances to take the game and blew a lot of great opportunities. Midfielders Yavud Ekici and Archie Markopoulos were their teams best but with an ineffectual forward line a lot of their good work was squandered.



Michael Thwaite of Sydney Uni challenges Devrim Huseyin in last weekend's match.

HURSTVILLE CITY CS 1
(Huseyin Bayhan 57')

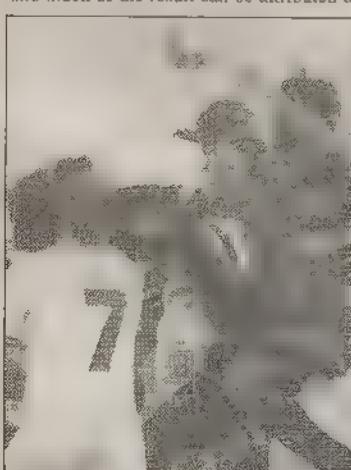
SYDNEY UNIVERSITY 1
(Freddy Umlil 1)
at St George Stadium

HURSTVILLE CITY CREST: STAR: Steve Tolios, Devrim Huseyin, Michael Kladis, Tayfun Devrimol, Sam Panagakis, Angelo Petratos, Achilles Markopoulos, Huseyin Jomaal, Yavud Ekici, Tanju Balabanel (Jimmy Aschner 69'), Huseyin Bayhan (Hans Sevgin 69'), Coach: Peter Saridakis.

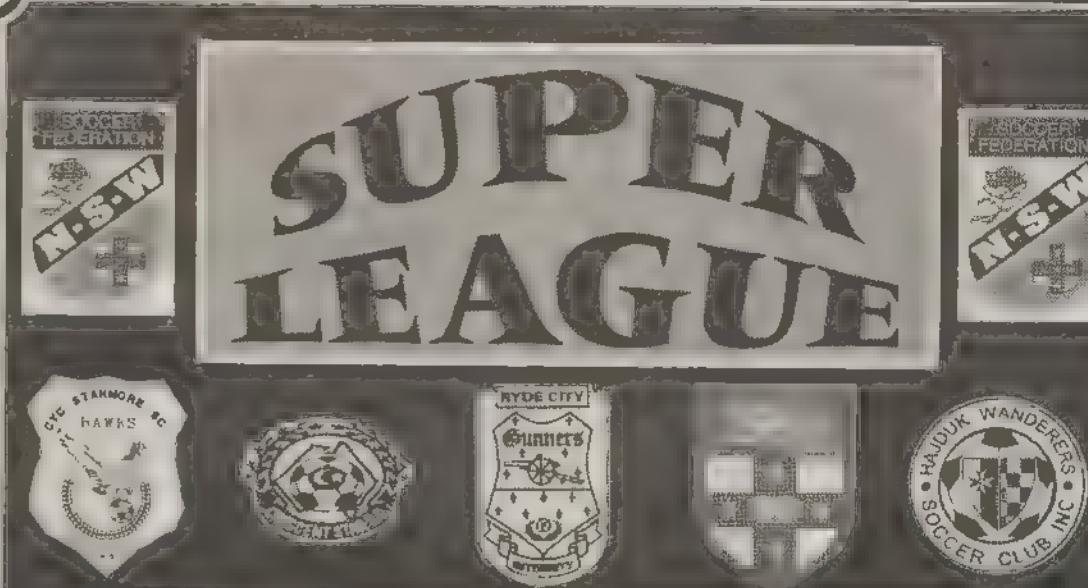
SYDNEY UNIVERSITY: Matt Craw, Gavin Buddis (Steve Karovski 76'), Dan Felton (Gordon Boyd 69'), Adam Daily, Tyrone Lara, Jason McMurree, Rob Smithies, Freddy Umlil, Luke McDougal, Peter Croci (David Gill 60'), Michael Thwaite, Coach: Stewart Porter.

Captains: Jomaal (HC) 5' Umlil (SU) 17' Boyd (SU) 79' Sevgin (HC) 81'

Referee: Brett Hugo
Assistant Referees: Terry Goodhew and Danny Adamopoulos



Hurstville's Steve Tolios is surrounded in his area.



Sunday 2 June

			First Grade	Grade 21	Grade 19
Sydney University	v	Rockdale City Suns	Sydney Uni Oval No 1	3:00PM	1:00PM
Dulwich Hill	v	AC United	Arlington Oval	3:00PM	1:00PM
Ryde City	v	MSC Liverpool	Magdalas Road	3:00PM	1:00PM
Manly Warringah	v	Stanmore Hawks	Cromer Park	3:00PM	1:00PM
Hajduk Wanderers	v	Fraser Park Jets	Hajduk Stadium	3:00PM	1:00PM
Hurstville City CS	v	Macarthur Rams	St George Stadium	3:00PM	1:00PM

ROUND 12

Sunday 16 June

			First Grade	Grade 21	Grade 19
Ryde City	v	Fraser Park	Magdalas Road	3:00PM	1:00PM
Dulwich Hill	v	Stanmore Hawks	Arlington Oval	3:00PM	1:00PM
Manly Warringah	v	Macarthur Rams	Cromer Park	3:00PM	1:00PM
Sydney University	v	MSC Liverpool	Sydney Uni Oval No 1	3:00PM	1:00PM
Hurstville City CS	v	Hajduk Wanderers	St George Stadium	3:00PM	1:00PM
Rockdale City Suns	v	AC United	Rockdale Ildinden Field	3:00PM	1:00PM

ROUND 13



Inside ... Inside ...

- Super League Reports & Previews . . P20 & P21
- Super League Scoreboard & Tables P22
- Division One & Two P23
- Youth/Cadet Leagues Reports & Fixtures . . P24
- Youth/Cadet Leagues Results & Tables . . . P25
- NSWASF News P26

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Premier League Presentation Night Pictures Next Week



NSW Super League



ROUND ELEVEN WRAP-UP

By Greg Stock



Rockdale Custodian Peco Trajeckovski.

MACARTHUR RAMS 0
FRASER PARK 1
(Matt Percy 58')
at Lynwood Park

'Absolutely electrifying' was how Jets' coach John Sentas described his side's first half onslaught against Macarthur on Saturday night. With Derek Poimer starting in his first game back from suspension to replace the injured Antonio Faria, Fraser Park were like greased lightning.



Manly's former Joey: Matthew Hunter.

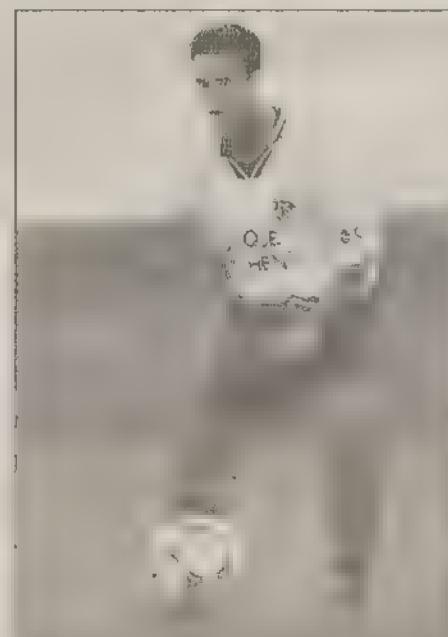
But some poor finishing by their strikers left the scores level at half-time. In the second half the Rams regrouped and made it a much more even contest with strikers Robbie Angievski and Eric Williams amongst the thick of the action. But in the 58th minute, Matt Percy got the only goal of the game when a corner kick was flicked on at the near post by Mirko Jurilj to fall nice for the defender who turned and shot all in one movement. Goalkeeper Chris Deangelo was simply outstanding for the visitors, constantly thwarting the Rams forward thrusts including saving an Angievski thunderbolt in the 73rd minute.

DULWICH HILL 0

ROCKDALE CITY SUNS 4
*(Nick Bosevski 32', 56', Ben Deighan 75',
 Zoki Adioski 76')*
at Arlington Oval

Rockdale City kept pace with arch rivals Manly at the top of the Super League competition table with a convincing 4-0 drubbing of Dulwich Hill at Arlington Oval.

With Nick Bosevski and Spase Najdoski running amok in the Suns forward line, the goals never stopped as the visitors slipped from first into fourth gear and ran away with the second half.



Adrian Marcerola: Rockdale.

Bosevski scored two goals, his second a brilliant chip shot after he ran onto a Najdoski through-ball and beat the advancing goalkeeper to the ball. While the ball lobbed against the post, Bosevski followed through deftly to steer the ball into an empty net.

Ben Deighan got into the act picking up goal number three with a well taken strike before substitute Zoki Adioski took advantage of a mix up in the Dulwich Hill defence to put the issue well beyond doubt.



Alex Araujo: AC United.

Best on the park was the Suns defender Richard Plesa who snuffed out every attacking foray the home side could muster. Bill Petrovski and Jose Mendes were sent off in the second half for two separate incidents leaving both sides to finish the match with 10 players.

RYDE CITY 0

AC UNITED 1
(Ben Price 80')
at Magdala Oval

For the umpteenth week this season, the hapless Gunners staged their own version of 'Hari-Kari' to go down to a late winner from AC United in their match-up at Magdala Oval.

With striker Ben Burrows shifted to the substitutes bench and his replacement Michael O'Reilly

on fire early, the Ryde City fans had plenty to cheer about when he smashed a shot against the crossbar in the 23rd minute.

But when defender Andy Stratford limped off on the half hour mark with a knock to the knee, the Gunners reshuffled and seemed unable to cope with his absence. AC regrouped at the break and had the better of the match in the second half.

With just ten minutes remaining on the clock it was the diminutive figure of Ben Price who bobbed up to score the winner. Price made some space outside the packed penalty box and when a misdirected clearance from a corner found him lurking unmarked, he pushed forward and made no mistake with his first time effort.

MANLY-WARRINGAH 3
*(Steve Berry 7', Ryan Griffiths 63',
 Hamilton Thorpe 87')*

MSC LIVERPOOL 0
at Cromer Park

Manly continued along on their winning way, notching their eighth win of the season, to trounce a disappointing MSC Liverpool at Cromer Park.

The Dolphins' Steve Berry got his side off to a great start in the 7th minute when he turned the Liverpool defence inside out on the break, and from there Manly were never troubled.

The visitors did have their moments as they tried to play possession football but with Tim West in outstanding form between the sticks, the defence was never breached. Ryan Griffiths picked up his usual 'goal a game' and Hamilton Thorpe also got himself on the scoresheet as the Robbie Slater coached side went on with the job in the second half. Wide midfielder Roland Webber was singled out for special mention by Slater as one of his team's best.

**HAJDUK WANDERERS v
 STANMORE HAWKS —
 Washed Out**

LEADING SCORERS

8 — Robert Smithies (Sydney University),
 Hamilton Thorpe (Manly-Warringah)

7 — Tim Gledhill (Hajduk Wanderers)

6 — Steve Berry (Manly-Warringah), Antonio Faria (Fraser Park), Ryan Griffiths (Manly-Warringah)

5 — Huseyin Bayhan (Hurstville City), Ben Burrows (Ryde City), Spase Najdoski (Rockdale City Suns), Jean-Loup Rousseau (Dulwich Hill)

4 — Zoki Adioski (Rockdale City Suns), Peter Apolevski (Rockdale City Suns), Tanju Balabanel (Hurstville City), Neno Bobos (AC United)

3 — Denis Alitovic (Rockdale City Suns), Aydin Cetinay (Hurstville City Crescent Star), Ben Deighan (Rockdale City Suns), Orhan Dincer (Dulwich Hill), Neil Phillipou (Stanmore Hawks), Tom Pontidas (Stanmore Hawks), Ben Price (AC United), Brendan Salameh (Hajduk Wanderers), Hans Sevgin (Hurstville City Crescent Star), Luke Vincent (AC United), Paul White (AC United), Eric Williams (Macarthur Rams)

2 — Kire Agwa (Fraser Park), Alex Araujo (AC United), Nick Bosevski (Rockdale City Suns), David Brickell (Manly-Warringah), Eddie Briscoe (Stanmore Hawks), Yavus Ekinli (Hurstville City), Eric Hristodoulou (Stanmore Hawks), Robert Issa (MSC Liverpool), Steve Jordan (Hajduk Wanderers), Jim Melissourgos (Stanmore Hawks), Luke McDougal (Sydney University), Jason McMinimee (Sydney University), Marc Nicholson (Manly-Warringah), Peter Papoythis (Stanmore Hawks), Robbie Portelli (Ryde City), Damien Rosenthal (Manly-Warringah), Hans Sevgin (Hurstville City Crescent Star), Andy Stratford (Ryde City), Freddy Umlil (Sydney University), Stewart Van Bentum (Macarthur Rams), Navid Varess (Stanmore Hawks), Trent Worrall (Hajduk Wanderers), Zia Younan (AC United)



Joint leader, Sydney University's Robbie Smithies, may miss this week's game due to injury.

**NEW SOUTH WALES
 FOOTBALL**

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**235-257 Meurants Lane,
 GLENWOOD, NSW, 2768**
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NSW Super League



ROUND 12 PREVIEW



Sydney University

v

Rockdale City Suns



KICK-OFF: 3pm, 1pm & 11am, Sunday 2nd June 2002

VENUE: Sydney University No.1 Main Campus Sydney University Camperdown.

Sydney University will be without their captain and striker Rob Smithies for this important face-off with the league leading Suns.

With an injury list a mile long including the likes of Adam Dally, Phil Wurth, Matt Crawford and Daisuke Nakayama, coach Stewart Porter will have his fingers crossed he can get a couple of these players fit for action this week. Rockdale have bounced back from a tough couple of weeks where they

picked up just one point from their last two starts, and thumped Dulwich Hill 4-0 last weekend.

Having signed former Bankstown City striker Goce Trposki and with Leo Carle omitted last week competition for spots is tough. Nobody but an ardent Uni fan will tip the visitors this week, but don't underestimate the Students.

A draw could be a distinct possibility if Rockdale approach the game with anything less than 100% commitment.



Adam Dally: On the Sydney University injury list.



Anthony Driene of MSC Liverpool.

Ryde City Gunners

v

MSC Liverpool



KICK-OFF: 3pm, 1pm & 11am, Sunday 2nd June 2002

VENUE: Magdalene Park Road, North Ryde.

Despite their respective ladder positions this should be a very interesting clash.

It pits one of the high profile coaches in the league in Lee Sterrey against one of the rising coaches in Sydney football, Tony Dunn.

Sterrey has had some mixed success with Liverpool since he took over three weeks ago.

A win and a loss has certainly been encouraging but a win over the Gunners would certainly see the team moving upwards and

onwards.

Ryde City could be missing their inspirational midfielder Andy Stratford and his loss will be tough to cover.

New signing Michael O'Reilly made a great debut last week and it will be interesting to see if Tony Dunn resurfaces the enigmatic Ben Burrows from the substitutes bench to start this week.

Keep an eye out for veteran defender Robbie Grubba who was arguably the best on the park for Ryde last Sunday.



Anthony Driene of MSC Liverpool.

Hajduk Wanderers

v

Fraser Park Jets



KICK-OFF: 3pm, 1pm & 11am, Sunday 2nd June 2002

VENUE: Hajduk Stadium, 130 Edensor Rd, St Johns Park.

Hajduk enjoyed a week's rest and relaxation with their game against Stanmore being postponed, and coach Tommy McCulloch used his time wisely to organise his side ahead of the visit of the Jets.

Some niggling injuries have had an extra week's rest leaving McCulloch with a full list of players from whom to choose a side. Peter Oklamovski from Bonnyrigg and Daniel Schwarzer, the younger brother of Socceroo Mark, have joined the club and could well make their senior debuts this weekend.

Fraser Park put their best foot for-

ward last week against the Rams and have won all five of their past starts. With Derek Poiner back from suspension and Antonio Faria expected to be passed fit to play this week after a hamstring problem, the Jets are capable of really taking this game by the scruff of the neck.

"The boys have gone from strength to strength over the past five weeks and it's a credit to them," said coach John Suttor.

The whole club has come together closer as a unit with the committee, the players, officials and fans all working hard with the aim of the top five."



Joseph Elliot: Hajduk Wanderers.



Anthony Driene of MSC Liverpool.

Dulwich Hill

v

AC United



KICK-OFF: 3pm, 1pm & 11am, Sunday 2nd June 2002

VENUE: Arthington Oval, William Parade, Dulwich Hill.

Dulwich Hill can't take a trick at the moment, having won just one of their past five games.

Even with the inclusion of midfield dynamo Yane Tachevski and Con Paradisis, they don't seem to be able to put a full ninety minutes together, and coach Manual Rodrigues has his work cut out this week.

He will be without the services of midfielder Bill Petrovski who will watch the game from the grandstand after a straight red

card last weekend.

AC United have lost just one of their last seven and have all the makings of a genuine top three side.

With Allan Picken, Luke Vincent and Paul White in the midst of a purple patch in form, they have the cattle to score goals and crush any side in the league.

If they are to continue their push for the top three they must pick up points against the lesser sides and that includes Dulwich Hill this week.



Maytham Abdal: AC United.

Manly Warringah Dolphins

v

Stanmore Hawks



KICK-OFF: 3pm, 1pm & 11am, Sunday 2nd June 2002

VENUE: Cromer Park, 101 South Creek Road, Dee Why.

Stanmore had the week off last weekend owing to the rain, though coach Chris Karasis kept his side busy and he fancies his chances of causing an upset against the league leaders at Cromer Park.

"We have been playing well of late and have started to promote some of our

youngsters to give them a taste of first grade football," said Karasis.

Manly have lost just once at Cromer Park this season and the ground is something akin to a fortress for them.

With goalkeeper Dean McCreat due back this week, the Dolphins will be at full strength and very hard to stop.



Manly's ex-NSL star Phil Moss.

Hurstville City CS

v

Macarthur Rams



KICK-OFF: 3pm, 1pm & 11am, Sunday 2nd June 2002

VENUE: St George Stadium, Beecroft Road, Rockdale.

Jimmy Aschner was unveiled as Hurstville's new signing last weekend, but while he didn't trouble the scorer he will definitely trouble the Rams defence this week with the Premier League Golden Boot winner expected to make his first full start for his new side.

Crescent Star will be desperate for a win to keep in touch with the top five as a loss this week will be disastrous for their

chances for the post-season. But with the likes of Eric Williams, David Reid and Robbie Angievski lining up for the Rams they will need to be on top of their game to take the result.

Watch out for Macarthur's veteran midfielder Martin Bourke for the visitors. If he can put his best foot forward this week, the away team could well spring a surprise on their more fancied opponents.



Hurstville's Tanji Balabanel.



NSW Super League



Scoreboard

SUPER LEAGUE RD 11

First Grade

MACARTHUR RAMS	0	FRASER PARK JETS	1
HURSTVILLE CITY CS	1	(M Percy 58')	
(H Bayan 57')		SYDNEY UNIVERSITY	1
DULWICH HILL	0	(F. Umlil 1')	
RYDE CITY	0	ROCKDALE CITY SUNS	4
(S Berry 7, R Griffiths 63, H Thorpe 87')		(N Bolevski 32', 56', B Deighan 75', Z Adiaski 76')	
MANLY WARRINGAH	3	AC UNITED	1
(S Berry 7, R Griffiths 63, H Thorpe 87')		(B Price 80')	
HAJDUK WANDERERS	vs STANMORE HAWKS (WASHED OUT)	MSC LIVERPOOL	0

UNDER 21

MACARTHUR RAMS	1	FRASER PARK JETS	0
HURSTVILLE CITY CS	1	SYDNEY UNIVERSITY	1
RYDE CITY	2	AC UNITED	1
HAJDUK WANDERERS vs STANMORE HAWKS (WASHED OUT)			
MANLY WARRINGAH vs MSC LIVERPOOL (WASHED OUT)			
DULWICH HILL vs ROCKDALE CITY SUNS (WASHED OUT)			

UNDER 19

MACARTHUR RAMS	2	FRASER PARK JETS	1
HURSTVILLE CITY CS	0	SYDNEY UNIVERSITY	0
RYDE CITY	2	AC UNITED	0
DULWICH HILL vs ROCKDALE CITY SUNS (WASHED OUT)			
HAJDUK WANDERERS vs STANMORE HAWKS (WASHED OUT)			
MANLY WARRINGAH vs MSC LIVERPOOL (WASHED OUT)			



Manly Warringah Dolphins

SUPER LEAGUE TABLE RD 11

FIRST GRADE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Manly Warringah Dolphins	11	8	2	1	27	11	16	26
Rockdale City Suns	11	8	2	1	25	11	14	26
AC United	11	6	3	2	23	18	5	21
Fraser Park Jets	11	6	3	2	14	9	5	21
Stanmore Hawks	10	5	2	3	18	10	8	17
Hurstville City Crescent Star	11	4	3	4	22	20	2	15
Hajduk Wanderers	10	4	2	4	17	14	3	14
Sydney University	11	3	3	5	22	22	0	12
Dulwich Hill	11	3	0	8	11	22	-11	9
Ryde City	11	1	4	6	11	19	-8	7
Macarthur Rams	11	2	1	8	9	24	-15	7
MSC Liverpool	11	1	3	7	6	25	-19	6

UNDER 21

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Macarthur Rams	11	8	1	2	26	16	10	25
AC United	11	6	2	3	21	15	6	20
Ryde City	11	6	2	3	24	19	5	20
Fraser Park Jets	11	6	1	4	23	14	9	19
Hurstville City CS	11	5	3	3	21	16	5	18
Hajduk Wanderers	10	5	3	2	20	16	4	18
Rockdale City Suns	10	4	2	4	19	18	3	14
Manly Warringah Dolphins	10	3	3	4	14	14	0	12
Stanmore Hawks	10	3	3	4	10	13	-3	12
MSC Liverpool	10	2	2	6	12	25	-13	8
Sydney University	11	1	3	7	16	28	-12	6
Dulwich Hill	10	1	1	8	7	21	-14	4

UNDER 19

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Ryde City	11	8	1	2	30	19	11	25
Macarthur Rams	11	7	1	3	26	19	7	22
Dulwich Hill	10	7	0	3	19	9	10	21
Manly Warringah Dolphins	10	6	2	2	25	14	11	20
Rockdale City Suns	10	6	2	2	22	17	5	20
Fraser Park Jets	11	6	0	5	24	16	8	18
Hajduk Wanderers	10	5	1	4	17	17	0	16
Sydney University	11	3	3	5	18	27	-9	12
Stanmore Hawks	10	3	2	5	18	18	0	11
AC United	11	1	4	6	19	25	-6	7
MSC Liverpool	10	1	2	7	17	28	-11	5
Hurstville City Crescent Star	11	0	2	9	13	39	-26	2



NSW Divisions 1 & 2



DIVISION ONE ROUND-UP

Mount Druitt Town Rangers met Wanderers Cedars met Wanderers Cedars at Popondetta Park on Saturday and a lively encounter it turned out to be, eventually resulting in a win for the latter

The leaders appeared to coast for much of the first half, while Mount Druitt applied themselves to the task and were rewarded when they hit the lead in the 39th minute.

Cristian Ortiz had gone wide with a low shot in the 12th but it was the home side that opened the scoring when a ball was played over the top of the defence for Town's recent acquisition, Jeff Suzor, to run onto and beat a defence appealing vainly for offside.

Suzor had the ball back for the unattended Leigh Cross, who finished with ease

Mount Druitt lost Cross soon after this with a reoccurrence of an injury and their attack subsequently suffered a lack of enterprise, as they sought to protect their slender lead

Sergio Dawd, off the bench, soon had Wanderers on level terms.

He came steaming in from the right of the area to slot home a cross from the left, that the defence was unable to deal with, as it crowded together inside the six yard box.

Dawd was then involved in the second goal for the visitors in the 63rd, but only after Alex Aravena's free kick had struck the crossbar in the 52nd.

Dawd fed Aravena, who got to the byline and crossed smartly for Codmani to arrive nicely at the far post and volley home

with precision.

The Wanderers' defence was well marshalled by Danny Wells, who drew praise from his coach after the game and along with the midfield general qualities of Codmani contributed hugely to the second half turnaround.

In the 89th a through ball by Aravena, following a defensive mix up, allowed Orcajo to fire home the third for a comfortable 3-1 win at the finish.

BATHURST '75 maintained their strong form this season with a gutsy 2-1 win over BELMORE HERCULES at Alex Lamberton Park

Greg Dowling had the home side ahead after 39 minutes and held a slender half time advantage

Belmore managed to draw level in the 52nd when D Hofierka found the net, but long serving and highly reliable front runner, Mark Cooke, was able to grab an 83rd minute winner to send the bitterly cold home fans

happy

ILLAWARRA LIONS met the highly rated MOUNT PRITCHARD at Macedon Park on a very cold Sunday in the foothills of Mount Kembla.

It was a tough game for the Lions, however, they proved to be the more dominant of the two sides throughout the game.

They created multiple chances but, as in other recent matches, they could not capitalise and punish Mt Pritchard, resulting in a scoreless draw.

To an outside observer, who may have had no idea what position on the ladder each team was holding, it may have been surprising for them to learn that the Mounties were second from the top and it was the home side that was second from the bottom.

Some good defensive work from Kulevski saw the player-coach blocking useful Mounties' shots from both Michael Severino and Lucas Flynn.

The Mounties defended

solidly after the break, but some good lead-up work down the right by the home side's Marko Vukovic, who put in a cross that fell to the boot of Nikola Jovcevski, saw that man's volley from six yards out being well saved by the keeper once more. The loose ball then fell to the boot of Keegan Pillay, whose shot from 10 yards out went well over the bar.

Shortly after that attack, Marko Vukovic then played a tremendous through ball to youngster Steven Tanevski who went through one-on-one with the keeper. Again, the Mt Pritchard goalkeeper came to their rescue and did well to save a strongly struck ball by the youngster.

With about 10 minutes to go, Nikola Jovcevski could have secured 3 points for the Lions. It was an identical build up by Marko Vukovic down the right side who again crossed in to Nikola Jovcevski who this time struck just wide of the near post.

NORTHERN TIGERS were due at Parklands Oval, Mount Colah, for the game with WHITE CITY but steady rain on the previous two days made conditions impossible for play and the council took the decision to close the field early on Saturday afternoon. The game may be re-staged midweek, possibly at Valentine Park.

HILLS UNITED were due at Fred Caterson Reserve to meet HURSTVILLE ZSC, but this was another game to fall foul of the weather

WESTERN RAGE had the bye

DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	I	F	A	GD	Pts
Wanderers Cedars	10	8	1	1	23	13	10	25
Mt Pritchard	10	6	1	3	21	12	9	19
Bathurst '75	10	5	3	2	11	9	2	18
Western Rage	9	4	3	2	14	12	2	15
Hurstville ZSC	9	4	1	4	18	16	2	13
Belmore Hercules	10	3	2	5	11	15	-4	11
Mt Druitt Town	10	3	2	5	16	17	-1	11
Northern Tigers	9	3	1	5	8	5	1	10
White City	9	2	3	4	17	7	0	9
Illawarra Lions	9	2	3	4	12	6	1	9
Hills United	9	2	0	7	11	24	-13	6

Division Two Wrap-Up

The big game of the day, almost certainly, was AUBURN STAR's clash with PARRA MATT CITY at Mona Park.

It proved something of a one-sided contest despite the home team being without two of its stars, Deniz Keselik and Ray Younis, both sidelined with injuries.

By the finish of a game they controlled for long periods and eventually won 4-0, they had the luxury of bringing on two 16 year olds, Adam Kir and Casli Jash.

It was soon evident that the vastly more experienced Auburn, who now head the table after this convincing performance, had the necessary fire power to take the points.

A visiting attack, missing some punch, relied upon much better service to Joe Tyler, who was unable to make any impression and thus the Parramatta scoring account was never opened, on a pitch that was fairly heavy, but quite playable.

Sarkis Boudaher was through on goal, but foiled by a great reflex save by keeper Shane West only for the sheer weight of numbers Auburn had allowing Boudaher to pick his spot from close range, with the over-

worked defence of Parramatta could not contain a posse of players involved in a calculated build up on the left, once the ball had run loose from the initial save.

In the 54th minute Parramatta's fears were confirmed when Abbas Saad put the pressure on defender Whitehouse in the goalmouth, following a corner from the left by Volkan Kir, with Saad getting the vital touch, according to referee Nick Asarogiatis.

Danny Abboud's Auburn got right on top towards the finish, Kir benefiting from a huge, high kick back to his keeper from centre field by Chris Barry, that was contested in the goalmouth by Kir and the keeper, the ball running free and being planted away by the Auburn striker in the 74th.

The last goal of what turned into a one sided contest at the finish, came from Serkan Erel, who had both Saad and Boudaher alongside, as he took on an under-manned Parramatta defence and found the target from close range, with ease.

CAMDEN TIGERS tackled one of the sides that has been out of luck so far this term, HOLY CROSS RYDE

Camden won the game 4-3 and had raced at one stage to a 2-0 lead, with Greg Dickinson getting both of those early goals.

The first of those goals, coming in the 27th, was set up by Grant Mackechne, who made a strong run down the left and crossed smartly for Dickinson to volley home.

The skilful Dickinson then got the second, in the 44th, with some superb individual play and he was also involved in the third, after playing a 1-2 with Steve Lord who provided the essential finish, to make it 3-0 just before half time.

Holy Cross came back strongly to level 3-3 with goals from Lombardo, Pasquale and Luck and thus made the locals sweat on their much needed victory.

Grant Mackechne was able to grab the winner for Camden, after good lead up work from former Tigers' junior Daniel Cunningham

HAKOAH and GRYSTANES were at the E S Marks Field and the home side was expecting to maintain its recent form and challenge for a semi finals position.

Travis Bardsley was able to give visitors Greystanes a very early lead, however, when he got his head to a cross from the right in the 9th minute, but Hakoah fought back and had Adam Mamroohi to thank for their two second half goals that led to them winning the match, after a strong second half by the home side.

Mamroohi netted in the 47th, after some brilliant individual work and then was brought down in the box, an hour into the game, to earn his side a penalty that Terry Sperber converted comfortably.

Liverpool Bossy had the bye. All other games were washed out.

DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Auburn Star	10	7	1	2	34	18	16	22
Liverpool Bossy	10	6	3	1	20	11	9	21
Hakoah	10	6	1	3	23	19	4	19
Nepean Association	9	6	0	3	24	11	13	18
Parramatta City	10	5	1	4	19	16	-3	16
Schofields Spions	9	5	0	4	15	10	5	15
Greystanes SC	10	4	2	4	20	19	1	14
Camden Tigers	10	4	1	5	20	21	1	13
University of NSW	9	4	1	4	15	16	1	13
Mingara Lakers	9	1	0	8	6	26	-20	3
Holy Cross Ryde	10	0	0	10	9	36	-27	0

SPORTS MEDICINE CENTRE NOW OPEN

Valentine Park Sports Medicine Centre is an exciting new facility located at the NSW Soccer Federation, Valentine Park, Glenwood. It provides first class injury rehabilitation by a team of experienced health professionals who specialise in soccer.

Physiotherapists David Hughes and Andrew Harper have years of experience across a range of sports and events including working with the Socceroos, various world championships and the Olympic Games.

They currently provide services for the New South Wales Institute

of Sport Soccer Program and the New South Wales under-age and senior representative soccer teams.

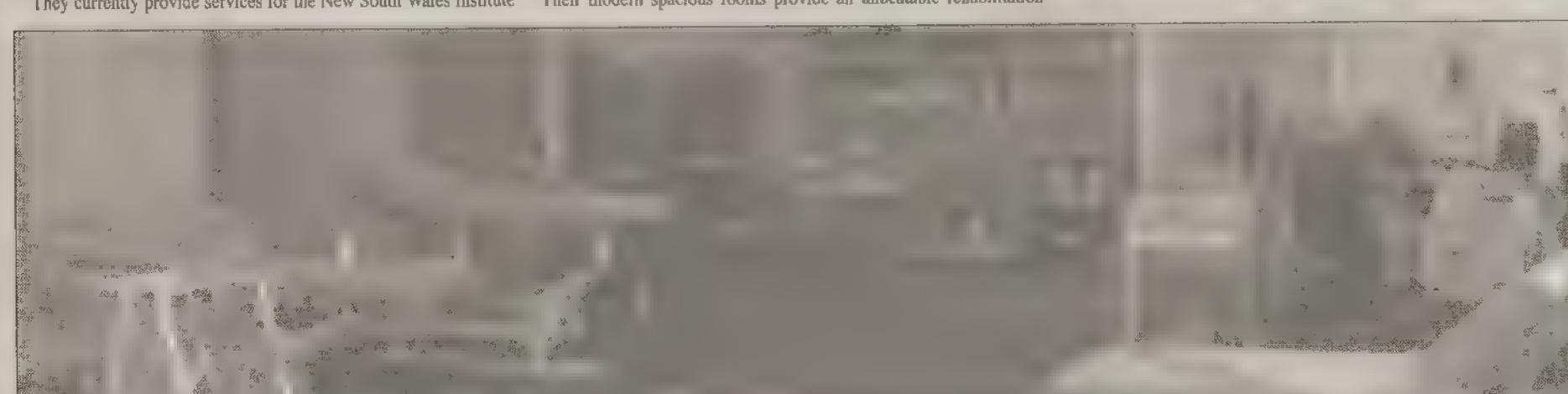
Podiatrist Matt Percy also has wide experience in soccer including a season working with West Ham United in England. He is still an active player in the NSW Super League.

So if you're serious about getting over your injuries, why not see the guys who specialise in soccer injuries every day of the week. Their modern spacious rooms provide an unbeatable rehabilitation

environment conveniently located at the home of New South Wales soccer.

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Phone 8824 6996

See the soccer specialists and let them help you get back on the park sooner.



The medical centre at Valentine Park.

NSW Youth & Cadet Leagues

PREMIER YOUTH LEAGUE RD 13

Rain, rain go away, come again another day. Any day except a Saturday when we need to play our Youth League games. Three sets of matches were washed out last weekend at the turning point of the competition. Seymour Shaw, Lambert Park and Plum Park were all ruled unfit for play and so Sutherland Shire Sharks, Leichhardt Tigers and Central Coast will need to reschedule their matches.

In the matches actually played Southern Branch got away from the bottom of the table as they took four very valuable points home from Sydney United, Wollongong Wolves could only claim three points from Marconi at Brandon Park while Olympic Sharks shared the points evenly with the visiting Blacktown City Demons and that allowed Northern Spirit to skip way at the top of the Combined Table.

Northern Spirit v Penrith Panthers

Spirit claimed sole possession of the top spot on the Combined Table when they took the full ration of points from the visiting Penrith Panthers at Christie Park.

The 13s game ended 2-1 and that was enough for Spirit to grab the top spot and to tumble the Panthers out of the top five. Harris Marsh and Robert Morrison provided the goals for the home team. In the 14s Northern Spirit's 1-0 victory was much closer than many would expect from a clash between first



and seventh place.

The sole scorer was Nicholas Rouo. Spirit continued their winning ways in the 15s with Brenton Olozomer, Samuel Jacobs and Onder Ozlak providing the goals in their 3-1 victory.

Then the home side took full advantage of games not played to take hold of third place with a much closer than expected 3-2 win over the sixth-placed Panthers thanks to goals from Dominic Rossi (2) and Liam Fugget.

SUPER YOUTH LEAGUE RD 13

AC United v Newcastle United

Despite some serious doubts the games went ahead at the Abruzzi Oval and the home club was very happy that they did as they claimed seven points from the high-flying Novocastrians.

Newcastle maintained the pressure on the leaders in the 13s with a commanding 6-0 win thanks to a hat-trick from Jay Richley and a goal each from Luke Stovoski, Justin Tannock and James Waters.

The visitors raced away to a 2-0 lead in the 14s thanks to goals from Blair Newham and Matthew Fisher but AC fought back to earn a well deserved draw through goals from Paul Skordilis and Frank Froio.

The home club squared the account in the 15s with a 3-2 win and moved into fourth place as a result. Dean Zaccaria netted twice and Andy Darko added another while the visitors' goals came through Matt Kona and Jarryd Johnson. AC then became the first team to beat Newcastle in the 17s thanks to a strike from Adrian Roach and an own goal.

Nepean Association v Eastern Suburbs Association

Nepean's John Todd told ABSW that he was reasonably pleased with the seven points they earned from the day against Eastern Suburbs. Peter Daglis' unbeaten Nepean 13s remained in the winners circle and maintained their grip on the top spot with a 3-0 win that saw the visitors drop from third to fifth place.

The scorers for the victors were Terry Pannowitz (2) and Nathan McClelland who was also the man-of-the-match. Easts bounced back immediately to post a 3-1 result and jumped from ninth to seventh place in the process.

Easts found the net through Karim Aboud, Matthew Vilazom and Paul Phanoya while Nepean's goal was provided by David Brusse. Carl McNaughton had an outstanding game for Nepean.

The 15s was a very even affair and the 2-2 final score was considered to be a fair reflection of the match although, given their relative positions on the table, Easts would have been absolutely delighted. Michael Sale scored a double for the home team while Richie Garland performed the same feat for the visitors.

Nepean leapfrogged Easts in the 17s at the bottom end of the table with a 2-0 success with the goals coming from Todd Small and Chris Forth who was the best-on-ground for the home side.



DIVISION ONE YOUTH LEAGUE RD 13

Mt Pritchard v Parramatta City

Parramatta's league leading 13s accounted for the Mounties but the 2-1 score line was much closer than many would have expected.

We understand that the Mounties had slightly the better of the game but could not convert their chances. Landis Michaels and Nick Desilas found the net for the visitors while Michael Kammoun replied for the home team.

Table topping Mounties 14s won their match 2-0. Their first goal came from a Daniel Palumbo cross which was steered into the net by Peter Vella.

Then a Matthew Filippello shot was knocked down and Justin Ciapetta was on hand to knock the ball in. At the final whistle in the 15s the scoreboard read 2-2 with the Mounties' goals coming from Daniel Simone and Danny Dawud while Richard Backhurst and Kris Rowe scored for the visitors.



Camden Tigers v Granville Association

The Tigers continued to dominate the Combined Table and now head the pack by thirteen points thanks to the twelve points they bagged from Granville at Ron Dine Reserve.

Alex Prophett's 13 moved into fourth place in their league after their 3-0 victory with goals coming from David Mathis, Stephen Lloyd and Barry Maths.

Tigers 14s are third following their 4-1 win. Scott Baldwin got two of the goals while David Blows and Jed Hilmi scored the others. Granville replied through A. Finianos. Camden's 15s bounced back from a mini slump that saw them draw two and lose one of their last three games.

They posted a 2-0 win thanks to goals from Shane Morrison and Steve McDonald. John Bolger scored a hat-trick and Chris Corbin got the other two in the Tigers' 5-0 win over the visitors.

Pictures from the weekend's games between Hills United and AC United (Cadet League U12) and AC United and Newcastle (Super League U15)

THIS WEEK'S FIXTURES

PREMIER YOUTH LEAGUE RD 14

	U13	U14	U15	U17	
Sat 1 June	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:45 PM	Southern Branch YL v Leichhardt Tigers
South Nowra	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:45 PM	Wollongong Wolves v Sydney United
Brandon Park 2	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:45 PM	Olympic Sharks v Manly Warringah
Bates Drive	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	4:15 PM	Sutherland Shire v Marconi Stallions
Seymour Shaw	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	4:15 PM	Plum Park v Northern Spirit
Plum Park	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	4:15 PM	Central Coast v St George
Christie Park	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	4:15 PM	Blacktown City Demons v Parramatta Eagles
Gabbe Stad Jnr	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:30 PM	4:15 PM	Blacktown City v Penrith Panthers
Sun 2-June					
South Nowra	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:45 PM	Southern Branch YL v Manly Warringah

SUPER YOUTH LEAGUE RD 14

	U13	U14	U15	U17	
Sat 1 June	9:00 AM	10:15 AM	11:30 AM	1:15 PM	Mingara Lakers v Macarthur Rams
Mingara Club	9:00 AM	10:15 AM	11:30 AM	1:15 PM	AC United v Blacktown Assoc
Abruzzi Oval	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:45 PM	Bonnyrigg WE v Newcastle United
Serbian Centre	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:45 PM	Ku-ring-Gai Assoc v Hajduk Wanderers
Parklands Oval	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:45 PM	Fairfield Bulls v Canterbury Millville
Hinchinbrook Field	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:45 PM	Eastern Suburbs v Bankstown City
Hensley Athletic Field	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:45 PM	Hurstville City CS v Granville Assoc
Oakville Reserve	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:45 PM	Hills United v Nepean Assoc

DIVISION 1 YOUTH LEAGUE RD 14

	U13	U14	U15	U17	
Sat 1 June	9:00 AM	10:15 AM	11:30 AM	1:15 PM	Schofields Sprouts v Rockdale City
CSI Club	9:00 AM	10:15 AM	11:30 AM	1:15 PM	Ryde City v Illawarra Lions
Magdalas Oval	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:45 PM	Mt Druitt Town v Mt Druitt Town
Cook Park Mt Pritchard	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:45 PM	Stanhope Hawks v Parramatta City
Pratten Park	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:45 PM	Camden Tigers v MSC Liverpool
Hammondville Oval	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:45 PM	Granville Assoc v Dulwich Hill
Camdenville Oval	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:45 PM	Hurstville City CS v Dulwich Hill
Benson's Lane	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	2:45 PM	Hawkesbury City v Dulwich Hill

PREMIER CADET LEAGUE RD 14

	U11	U12	
Sat 1 June	9:00 AM	10:15 AM	Olympic Sharks v Manly Warringah Dolphins
Bates Drive	9:00 AM	10:15 AM	Sutherland Shire Sharks v Marconi Stallions
Seymour Shaw	9:00 AM	10:15 AM	Central Coast Coasties v St George
Plum Park	9:00 AM	10:15 AM	Northern Spirit v Parramatta Eagles
Christie Park	9:00 AM	10:15 AM	Blacktown City Demons v Penrith Panthers
Gabbe Stad Jnr	9:00 AM	10:15 AM	Southern Branch YL v Leichhardt Tigers
Sun 2-Jun			
Brandon Park 2	9:00 AM	10:15 AM	Wollongong Wolves v Sydney United
South Nowra	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	Southern Branch YL v Manly Warringah Dolphins

SUPER CADET LEAGUE RD 9

	U11	U12	
Sun 2 June	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	Hills United v Eastern Suburbs
Oakville Reserve	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	Bonnyrigg White Eagles v Hajduk Wanderers
Serbian Centre	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	Bankstown City Cubes v Mingara Lakers
Jensen Park	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	Macarthur Rams v AC United
Lynwood Park	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	Canterbury Marriktville v Fairfield Bulls
Marmont Oval	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	

DIVISION 1 CADET LEAGUE RD 8

	U11	U12	
Sun 2 June	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	Hawkesbury City v Camden Tigers
Benson's Lane	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	Ryde City v Stanmore Hawks
Magdalas Oval	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	Macarthur Rams v MSC Liverpool
Popondetta Park	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	Illawarra Lions v Parramatta City
Macedonia Field	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	Hurstville City CS v Rockdale City Suns
St George Stadium	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	Cook Park Mt Pritchard v Schofield Scorpions
Cook Park Mt Pritchard	8:45 AM	9:45 AM	Mt Pritchard v Schofield Scorpions

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AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH SOCCER WEEKLY — MAY 28, 2002

GRASS ROOTS SOCCER

It starts with a dream! That's what the poster said underneath the picture of 'Pele', one of the greatest soccer players to set foot on a field.

With the up-coming World Cup, these words are a simple reminder that all of these countries, their teams and players all started out with a dream.

Those dreams would have started years ago at the very moment we all pulled on our boots and played our very first game. From that moment arose a passion, desire and the ambition to strive to achieve our own goals and those of our team

around us. As young players rising up through the ranks we all took hold of that dream and carried it with us to become the best in our team and the hope of one day winning a grand final.

The achievement of winning grand finals or playing for your State changes your whole outlook as you see doors open and opportunities arise and you feel that you have the soccer world at your feet. You may step into NSL and beyond but you would often find yourself glancing back to that very first team and club that you played for and loved so dearly. Maybe when you are pulling on the green and gold you remember that very dream

you had as a youngster, that ambition and passion you had to be the best that you could be.

So I say to all the current and past amateur players, we all know what it's like to play the world's greatest game, so if you have a mate or a son or daughter who doesn't know how to get involved, then give them a push in the right direction so that they will also be able to share in the dream!

The World Cup will again attract the attention of millions of fans around the world and it will highlight those players who have made it and who have become the very best at the world game, but we should remember It Starts With A Dream!

Sharon Dewar Women's Soccer Coordinator

When Sharon Dewar was in third class she was banned from playing soccer for her school. Why? Because she was a girl!

"They can't do that to girls anymore," Sharon tells us quite proudly. "At the time it upset me, but it also made me more determined to play soccer."

Determined is a good word to describe the exploits of the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation's Women's Soccer Coordinator. Sharon has played soccer for more than 30 years.

At 41, Sharon is the trenchant veteran of women's soccer on the Central Coast of NSW. "It takes longer to recover from a game these days, but I still love playing!"

Not many people know it, but Sharon played for the Australian Women's National team — The Matildas — from 1986 to 1989.

She toured Taiwan and China as vice-captain of the side and also played six years of State soccer with NSW and Northern NSW.

These days Sharon is still extremely enthusiastic and busily involved in the game. In 2002, as well as her position as NSWASF Women's Soccer Coordinator, Sharon is enjoying her third season with the Mingara Lakers in the Women's Super League, is Registrar of the Avoca Soccer Club, coach of the Avoca 6-1's and is also coach of the Central Coast Coerver Elite squad.

Sharon's recent news is that she has been invited as one of 5 NSW representatives to attend a Soccer Australia 'New Era' Female Instructor's Course being held at the AIS, Canberra in June.

Baulkham Hills Under 9-5's



CLUB OF THE WEEK BAULKHAM HILLS SOCCER CLUB

In 1962 the Baulkham Hills Soccer Club began with just 5 junior teams and won its first premiership a year after.

Now celebrating its fortieth birthday, the Club currently has 34 teams playing in the Granville & District Association's competitions, including two Ladies and four Over 35 teams, as well as 150 players in its 6 & 7s Fun Skills program.

During its 40 years, the Club has fielded teams in the Inter-Suburban League during the 1970s and Federation and Youth League teams during the 1980-90s.

But it was at its peak in 1981 when it fielded 91 teams in the Granville competitions. As well, it has had many teams representing Granville in the Champion of Champions and played in many State and Robertson Cups.

The home ground at Ted Horwood

Reserve, Baulkham Hills has 3 soccer fields including a pitch of international standard built over 2 years by the Club's pioneers in the early 1970s.

As a part of the 40th celebration, it has been re-named the Tom Newhouse Field to honour the contribution to soccer of this pioneer Life Member, who also received a NSWASF Special Award in 1993, the Australian Sports Medal in 2000, was named Granville's Clubman of the Year for 2001 and received an OAM in the 2002 Australia Day honours list.

The maroon and gold strip of 'Baulko' has been worn proudly by thousands of soccer players over the years and with the same kookaburra insignia on their chests, future players will carry on the competitive traditions of the Club for at least the next forty.

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JUNIOR LEAGUE FIXTURES

ROUND 11

DATES	TEAMS	AGE	GROUNDS	TIME
Sunday 2 June	Blacktown v Granville	11	Francis Park	09:00
Sunday 2 June	Sutherland v Nepean	11	Bates Drive	10:00
Sunday 2 June	Ku-Ring-Gai v Central Coast	11	Parklands Oval	10:00
Sunday 2 June	Bankstown v Highlands	11	Neville Res.	10:00
Sunday 2 June	Blacktown v Granville	12	Francis Park	10:00
Sunday 2 June	Ku-Ring-Gai v Central Coast	12	Parklands Oval	11:00
Sunday 2 June	Sutherland v Nepean	12	Bates Drive	11:00
Sunday 2 June	Bankstown v Highlands	12	Neville Res.	11:00

NSWASF Competition Information visit
www.nswASF.com.au

WORLD CUP - TV SCHEDULE



May 2002

100

DATE	TEAMS	GROUP	NETWORK	TV TIME		DATE	MATCH#	TV TIME		NETWORK		
				49	50	SAT 15th	SUN 16th	MON 17th	TUE 18th	WED 19th	THUR 20th	THUR 20th
JUN 1st	France v Senegal	Group A	SBS	16.00	18.50	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 2nd	Ireland v Cameroon	Group E	NINE	16.00	18.50	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 3rd	Uruguay v Denmark	Group A	SBS	21.30	21.30	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 4th	Germany v Saudi Arabia	Group E	NINE	15.00	15.00	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 5th	Argentina v Nigeria	Group F	SBS	17.30	19.30	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 6th	Paraguay v South Africa	Group B	SBS	21.30	21.30	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 7th	England v Sweden	Group F	SBS	16.00	18.50	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 8th	Spain v Slovenia	Group B	SBS	21.30	21.30	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 9th	Croatia v Mexico	Group G	NINE	21.30	21.30	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 10th	Brazil v Turkey	Group C	SBS	16.00	18.50	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 11th	Italy v Ecuador	Group G	NINE	21.30	16.00	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 12th	Chile v Costa Rica	Group C	SBS	18.50	18.50	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 13th	Japan v Belgium	Group H	SBS	21.20	16.00	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 14th	Korea Republic v Poland	Group D	SBS	18.50	18.50	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 15th	Russia v Tunisia	Group H	SBS	21.20	21.20	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 16th	USA v Portugal	Group D	SBS	16.00	16.00	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 17th	Germany v Ireland	Group E	SBS	18.50	21.20	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 18th	Denmark v Senegal	Group A	SBS	16.00	18.50	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 19th	Cameroon v Saudi Arabia	Group A	SBS	18.50	21.20	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 20th	France v Uruguay	Group E	SBS	16.00	18.50	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 21st	Sweden v Nigeria	Group F	SBS	18.50	21.20	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 22nd	Spain v Paraguay	Group B	SBS	18.50	21.30	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 23rd	Argentina v England	Group F	NINE	16.00	19.00	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 24th	South Africa v Slovenia	Group B	SBS	19.00	19.00	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 25th	Italy v Croatia	Group G	NINE	21.30	16.00	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 26th	Brazil v China	Group C	SBS	16.00	18.50	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 27th	Mexico v Ecuador	Group G	SBS	21.00	16.00	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 28th	Costa Rica v Turkey	Group H	SBS	18.50	16.00	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 29th	Japan v Russia	Group H	SBS	21.30	18.50	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 30th	Korea Republic v USA	Group D	SBS	16.00	18.50	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUN 31st	Tunisia v Belgium	Group H	SBS	18.50	21.20	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUL 1st	Portugal v Poland	Group D	SBS	21.20	16.00	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUL 2nd	Denmark v France	Group A	SBS	18.50	18.50	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUL 3rd	Senegal v Uruguay	Group A	SBS	21.30	18.50	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUL 4th	Cameroon v Germany	Group E	NINE	16.00	18.50	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUL 5th	Costa Rica v Brazil	Group C	SBS	18.50	18.50	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUL 6th	Turkey v China	Group C	SBS	23.30	18.20	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUL 7th	Mexico v Italy	Group G	SBS	16.00	16.50	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUL 8th	Ecuador v Croatia	Group G	SBS	21.20	16.50	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUL 9th	Tunisia v Japan	Group H	SBS	16.00	18.50	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUL 10th	Belgium v Russia	Group H	SBS	21.30	18.50	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUL 11th	Portugal v Korea Rep.	Group D	SBS	16.50	18.50	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS
JUL 12th	Poland v USA	Group D	SBS	21.20	18.50	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS	SBS

AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH SOCCER WEEKLY — MAY 28, 2002

Berlusconi warns Italy

Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi has wished the national team well in the World Cup — and told them not to return unless they win the trophy.

The media magnate and AC Milan owner urged the players to "give all they have because the entire country is following you with pride."

Berlusconi said: "I am a dictator, according to some newspapers. So, my message is: go to the Far East and win."

"If you lose, chains await you and we shall put you in jail. If you come back without the Cup, you will be hit by 58m Italians."

The Italian premier also offered coach Giovanni Trapattoni some advice.

He added: "Let your players



Silvio Berlusconi has urged his team to win the World Cup.

practice many penalties and decide who must take them beforehand."

Meanwhile Italy's playmaker Francesco Totti returned to full training on Thursday after shaking off a niggling thigh injury.

The Roma forward missed the last games of the Serie A season and also sat out Italy's warm-up game against the Czech Republic last Saturday.

Coach Giovanni Trapattoni said there was no cause for concern about Totti's fitness but said he would be carefully monitored in the build up to Italy's first group game against Ecuador.

"I am not worried about Totti's condition but it is at the point where we still need to pay attention to him. Of course he is very important to us," said Trapattoni.

KEANE BREAKS SILENCE

Roy Keane has refused to apologise over the row which cost him a place at the World Cup.

Breaking his silence for the first time since returning to England from Japan, the former Republic of Ireland captain also said there was "absolutely no chance" of anyone convincing him to make his peace with Mick McCarthy.

Keane said he would only play for his country again if McCarthy was no longer in charge of the team.

"I don't feel an ounce of guilt about my part in what has happened," said the midfield hardman, who had earlier refused to speak to the media upon his return to the family home in Cheshire, England.

In an interview with the Mail on Sunday newspaper, Keane added: "I will return to Ireland next week and walk down the main street in Cork with my head held high. I have nothing to be ashamed of."

"Apologies? I don't think I should be apologising. If anything, I believe the apologies are for others to apologise to me."

The Manchester United star was sent home before a ball had even been kicked after his criticism of the squad's training facilities led to a bitter argument with manager McCarthy.

Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern even stepped in and offered to help Keane change his mind.

But the defiant player said: "There is absolutely no chance of that happening, never in a million years. I won't be going back to Japan."

And on the subject of representing his country in the future, Keane said: "Maybe, just maybe, there is a slight chance I could play for Ireland again once Mick McCarthy is no longer the manager."

Keane admitted verbally abusing McCarthy and accepted he was "no angel".

But he denied calling the manager an "Englishman



Roy Keane has remained defiant after being dismissed from the Irish squad.

not an Irishman" and said he had been right to raise concerns about the Irish team's preparations for the tournament.

He claimed two of the players agreed with his comments and said he should have stuck with his original decision to walk away from the World Cup.

Keane had asked to be left out of the squad for personal reasons on Wednesday but then had a change of heart, before a fateful interview with the Irish Times newspaper led to the showdown with McCarthy.

Desailly:

It will be tough

French skipper Marcel Desailly has admitted that the world champions will have a huge battle on their hands to retain the Jules Rimet trophy, won so brilliantly at France 98.



French captain Marcel Desailly believes his team will have a huge task trying to retain the World Cup.

Even though they are a stronger squad than four years ago, Les Bleus faces a tougher challenge at the finals in Japan and South Korea than they did on home soil, where they were considered a title outsider and surprised most experts.

"It can't be like four years ago anymore," explained Desailly.

"This time we are not going to play on home ground with the fans to back us."

"In 1998, despite being the hosts, we were only underdogs as we had not won anything."

"Today, we are one of the three top favourites along with Italy and Argentina, and we have to defend our status."

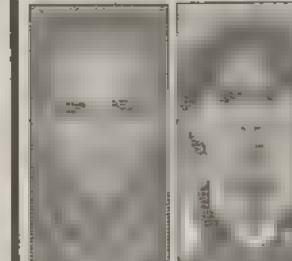
Desailly, who took over the leadership role after Didier Deschamps retired from the international arena in 2000, added: "We are here to go all the way through."

"Obviously we have more pressure on our shoulders."

Veteran Marseille defender Frank Leboeuf, who is expected to line up alongside Desailly in the centre of defence, echoed his captain's sentiments and said: "We are the team to beat."

"Everybody wants to win the trophy and, as we are the ones who did it, everybody is keen to cut off our heads."

Portugal star out of World Cup after drugs test



Daniel Kenedy (left) has been replaced by Hugo Viana after failing a drugs test.

Martimo star Daniel Kenedy has been sensationally axed from the Portugal squad after failing a drugs test in Lisbon prior to departure for the World Cup.

Sporting teenager Hugo Viana has been drafted in as his replacement.

Kenedy, a 28-year-old defensive midfielder, had been a surprise call-up by Antonio Oliveira, but his ability to deputise on the left flank for the injured duo Simao

Sabrosa and Luis Boa Morte weighed in his favour.

"It's a very sad day for me," he said. "I took a pill to lose weight, and I didn't know it contained an illegal substance. I wasn't trying to dope myself."

"I used the pill when I was on vacation for about ten days, I had no idea."

"This is a terrible moment for me, but I'm very happy about the support I've had from my teammates. It shows their character."

BECKHAM COULD RETURN HOME

David Beckham could be sent home from the World Cup without kicking a ball as he struggles to regain full fitness.

The England captain had been expected to recover from a broken foot in time to face Sweden on 2 June.

But coach Sven-Goran Eriksson has revealed that Beckham may

not even be fit for the second game with Argentina.

And Eriksson is now contemplating a World Cup without his captain and star player.

"It would be very bad to have to send Beckham home — extremely bad for England, for himself and for the World Cup," he said.

"It would be like taking out Zidane, Raul or Figo. I never

thought of David not playing against Sweden and Argentina.

"I always thought he would play from the first minute against Sweden but I cannot be sure."

"The medical staff are working with him every day, but it is hope."

"If I have a guarantee that players cannot start against Sweden or Argentina I will have to make a decision."

Dudek back between the sticks

Poland has received a boost ahead of the World Cup finals after goalkeeper Jerzy Dudek dispelled talk of a knee problem.

The Liverpool custodian suffered a swollen knee in training before Saturday's 1-0 victory against Estonia, his country's final hit-out before the finals.

The giant Pole said after the entire squad met Poland's soccer-mad President Aleksander Kwasniewski on Wednesday: "My knee is well, very well."



Jerzy Dudek has dispelled talk of a knee injury.

Denmark concern as Jorgensen pulls up



Martin Jorgensen raised concerns for his team after a slight injury forced him from the training ground match.

Cameroon's World Cup squad arrives in Japan after bizarre journey

Cameroon's World Cup squad finally landed in Japan late Thursday after a bizarre four-day delay caused by an alleged dispute over bonus payments and the absence of flyover permits over Southeast Asia.

A chartered Boeing 757, carrying the Olympic and African champions, touched down at Fukuoka, on the southern Japanese island of Kyushu, at 11:40 pm after a flight from Bangkok.

Sweden coach plays down Ljungberg training bust-up

Sweden coach Lars Lagerback played down the training ground bust-up involving Arsenal star Fredrik Ljungberg ahead of Saturday's World Cup warm-up game against Japan.

Ljungberg and Aston Villa defender Olof Mellberg were at the centre of amazing scenes on Thursday, the two players grappling furiously after a flare-up at Sweden's Miyazaki training ground.

An enraged Ljungberg lunged at Mellberg after being felled by a late tackle during a practice match. The two players were

eventually separated by team-mates.

Lagerback insisted on Friday the affair was closed and that no bad feeling had lingered.

"It was not an incident, it was just an argument, not a big deal. The two players got temper, and we talked a little bit

about it afterwards.

"I think nothing happened, just a little bit of pushing," said Lagerback, adding that he had taken a dim view of Mellberg's challenge.

"If I was a referee, but I was not, I would have given him a yellow card."



The Swedish coach dismissed the incident between his two players.

FIGO ADMITS STILL TROUBLED BY INJURY

Portugal's great World Cup hope Luis Figo admitted that his troubled ankle was still not right.

"During training I felt a sudden pain in the back of my thigh and had to stop immediately," explained the midfielder, whose latest injury is just the latest in a nightmare two years for the Udinese star.

A persistent groin problem has kept Jorgensen on the sidelines for long spells, but he is optimistic that this latest setback will not prove so serious.

"It is some kind of spasm, nothing serious," he said. "I expect to be completely fit in a day or two."

"I'm happy to be able to tell you that my ankle is a lot better," the inspirational midfielder said.

Figo, who has suffered from an ankle injury for most of the season, said he was unsure when he would be 100 percent fit.

But the Real Madrid star had an upbeat note for his fans.

"My recovery is just a matter of time," Figo told *FIFAworldcup.com*.

"There's no doubt that every year we have more matches to play and less and less time to recover. That's the way it goes. Recovery time has shrunk for everyone," he said.



Luis Figo still troubled by injury only a week out from the World Cup.

Metatarsal jink claims Murphy



Danny Murphy forced out of the World Cup.

England midfielder Danny Murphy was ruled out of the World Cup when a scan showed he had fractured his foot in a training-ground fall.

The Liverpool star will be in plaster for three weeks and commented as he left hospital.

A Football Association spokesman added: "We can confirm that Danny Murphy has sustained a fractured foot. The injured bone is the second metatarsal, the same bone as David Beckham."

Trevor Sinclair, who flew home on Tuesday when Eriksson named Kieron Dyer in his final party of 23, now rejoins the camp.



Trevor Sinclair comes in as Murphy's replacement.

Bielsa undecided over Crespo and Batistuta



Gabriel Batistuta

Argentina coach Marcelo Bielsa has admitted that he has not decided whether he will deploy Gabriel Batistuta or Hernan Crespo against Niger on June 2. "It's very difficult to decide because both have played well," he said.

"Both players have arrived at the World Cup in perfect shape," he went on. "I will monitor them very closely to make sure that I don't get it wrong."

Bielsa is adamant that he will stick to his three-man front line, which requires a lone central striker with a wide player on either side, and thus precludes the possibility of Crespo and Batistuta playing together.

"If they were to play together, they would play one behind the other, or one beside the other, and neither of those options seems good to me," he explained.



Hernan Crespo

FIFA says no World Cup ticket chaos

World Cup organizers said Friday that tickets would be distributed on time in South Korea and Japan despite printing delays, but they have eased some restrictions on ticket use.

Japan is waiting for 188,000 tickets, according to FIFA, and South Korea

But FIFA's ticketing sub-committee said in a statement the operation is "on track despite the fact that certain delays have been experienced regarding the delivery of the tickets to the

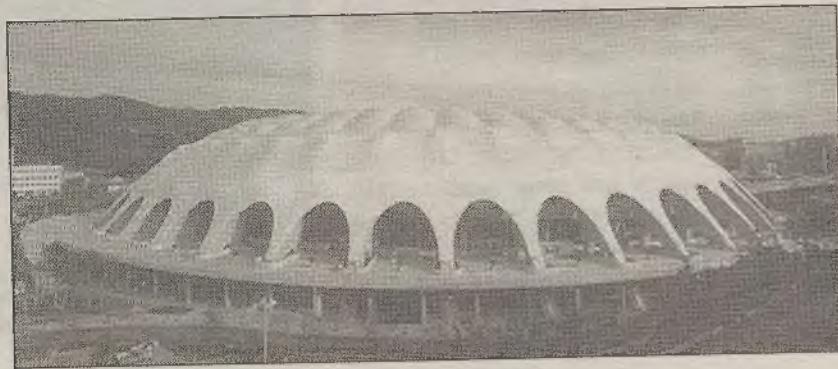
fans in the two host countries."

The Korean World Cup Organising Committee (KOWOC) said the remaining 104,900 tickets out of 706,910 tickets to be distributed to fans in Korea were to be brought from

World Cup 2002 Venues: Korea

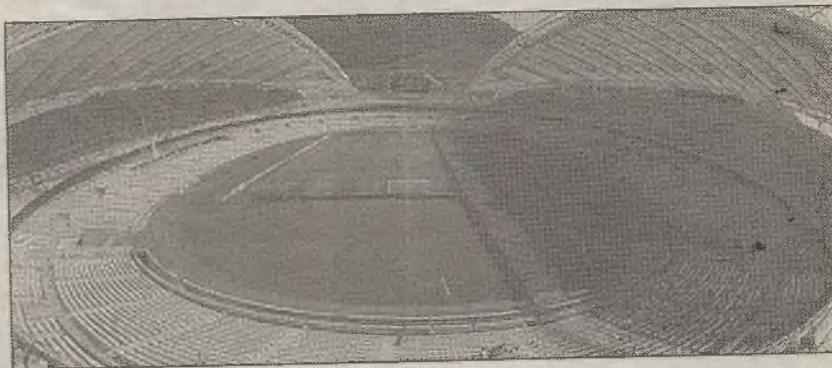


PUSAN



CAPACITY: 55,982

DAEGU



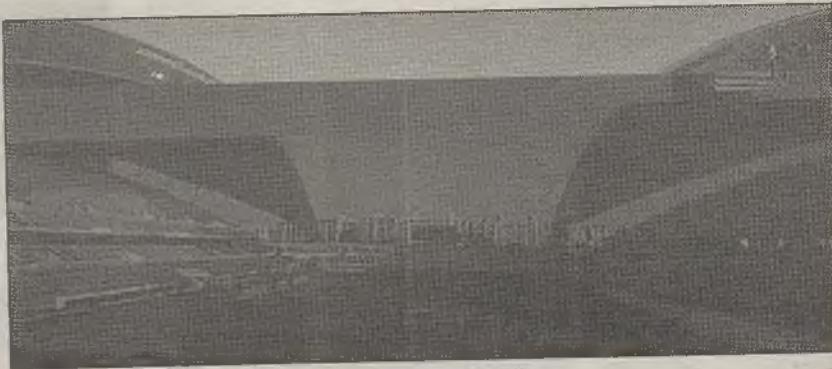
CAPACITY: 68,014

TAEJON



CAPACITY: 40,407

KWANGJU



CAPACITY: 42,880

INCHON



CAPACITY: 52,179

SOGWIPO



CAPACITY: 42,256

CHONJU



CAPACITY: 42,391

SEOUL



CAPACITY: 63,931

SUWON



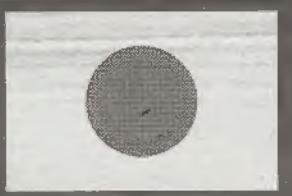
CAPACITY: 43,188

ULSAN



CAPACITY: 43,550

World Cup 2002 Venues: Japan

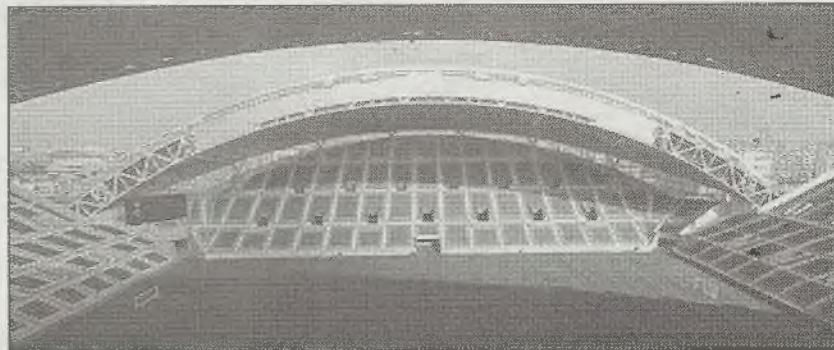


IBARAKI



CAPACITY: 42,000

KOBE



CAPACITY: 42,000

MIYAGI



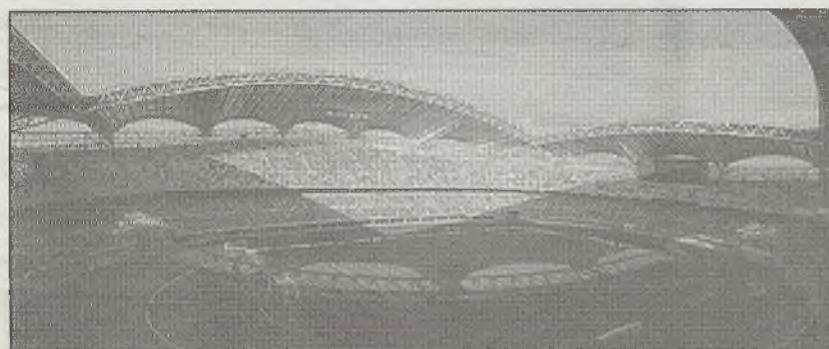
CAPACITY: 49,000

NAGAI



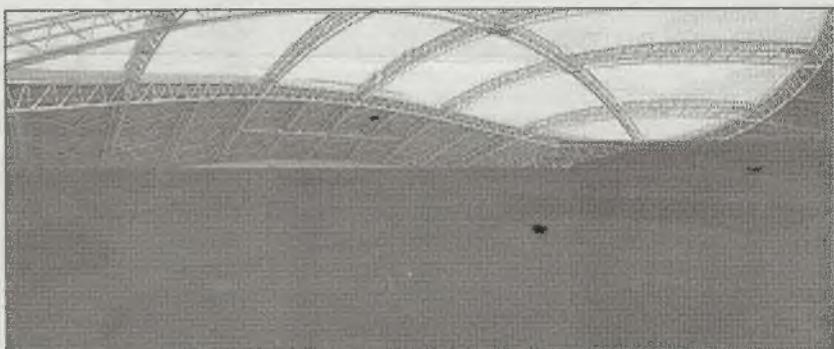
CAPACITY: 50,000

NIIGATA



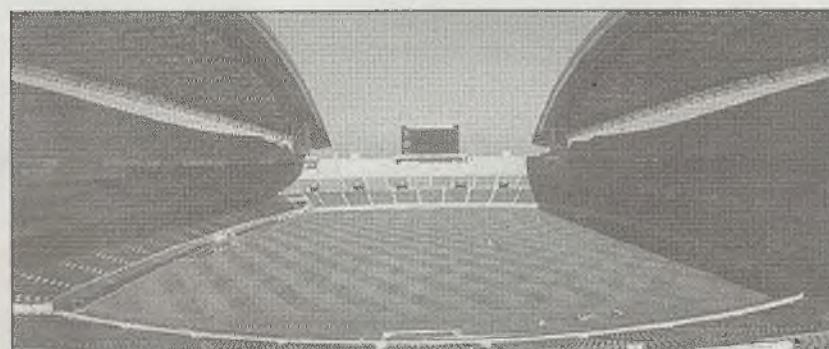
CAPACITY: 42,300

OITA



CAPACITY: 43,000

SAITAMA



CAPACITY: 63,000

SAPPORO



CAPACITY: 42,000

SHIZUOKA



CAPACITY: 50,600

YOKOHAMA



CAPACITY: 70,000

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